LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

MINUTES

APRIL 7, 2005

WAYNE J. SAGRERA CHAIRMAN

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

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2000 Quail Drive

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

For more information, call (225) 765-2806

AGENDA

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, April 7, 2005

Chairman Wayne Sagrera presiding.

Terry Denmon
Earl King
Frederic Miller
Henry Mouton
Robert Samanie, III

Secretary Dwight Landreneau was also present.

Commissioner Patrick Morrow was absent from the meeting.

There were no Commission Special Announcements for this month.

Secretary Landreneau advised that the Department has been in conversation and negotiations with the company that was in the process of buying out Great Lodge. He officially was informed that Citibank purchased the Department's contract from Great Lodge. The only difference would be a new name, the contract would be the same. Also, Secretary Landreneau noted the first meeting of the White Lake Advisory Board would be held on April 14 at 9:30 and he invited the Commissioners to attend. The orientation meeting would cover the Department, the White Lake property, and how the board would interact with the Department on managing the property. Finally, Secretary Landreneau stated that the Department would address the Commission from a table similar to the format the Legislature follows.

The Monthly Law Enforcement Report for March began with Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze stating there were 1,126 citations and 219 warnings written as well as 65 public assists. The primary activity for the month was boating and the turkey season. The Aviation Report showed two planes flew Enforcement 27.1 hours, Wildlife Division 14.5 hours, Marine Fisheries 6.5 hours, Inland Fisheries 4.5 hours for a total of 52.1 hours. On the boating accident report, there were 11 accidents with 5 injuries and 5 fatalities. He then noted the parishes where those accidents occurred were Orleans, St. Mary, 2 in Concordia, Jefferson Davis, Red River, Cameron, Vermilion, West Baton Rouge, Lafourche and St. Martin. Lt. Col. LaCaze stated they were continuing with boating education on PFD's and refraining from alcohol consumption. Turkey season opened on Good Friday and there were 16 cases made on opening weekend for hunting turkey over

bait, 1 turkey was taken from a moving vehicle, and an over the limit case. The News Releases included a sinking boat on the Dewey Wills WMA and agents help in rescuing four passengers, their property and their boat; an out of season alligator, 12 feet in length, was taken illegally; oyster cases and closed season frogging cases.

Consideration of Oyster Season on Public Grounds and Reservations began with Chairman Sagrera stating that Department closed the area in question for biological reasons. He then asked the staff if they had anything to present first. John Roussel reminded the Commission they received a letter from an oyster industry representative asking the season be extended on the public oyster grounds. Department staff followed-up with a memo addressing some of the issues presented by the industry for the extension. Mr. Roussel then introduced Mr. Patrick Banks and noted he was ready to present information from the season on the public grounds. Mr. Banks stated a map of the area showed the closure dates for the season as it was currently set. The area south of the MRGO and east of the Mississippi River closed April 1, 2005; the area north of the MRGO excluding the Lake Borgne Public Oyster Seed Ground would close on April 8, 2005 by action of the Department's Secretary; and the Lake Borgne Ground would close on April 30, 2005. Hearing no questions from the Commission, Chairman Sagrera asked for public comments.

Mr. George Barisich, President of United Commercial Fisherman Association, thanked the Commission and Department for listening to the proposed request. The request was to reopen a portion of the state seed grounds south of the MRGO, commonly known as Black Bay, until April 30, 2005. He then listed the following reasons for the reopening. First, the oyster fishermen lost a month of work at the beginning of the season and thought they would get it back at the But the Department closed the area north of the MRGO, and they felt there would be a 100 boat influx from the Black Bay area to the north which resulted in the closure. The second reason was the active hurricane season resulted in three weeks of down time for the fishermen. Third, the time and temperature matrix makes it impossible for the Black Bay boaters to relocate in the Lake Borgne The fourth reason and one of the most important was economics; the price for the oysters has shot up drastically making this a highly marketable product. Another reason given by Mr. Barisich was, of the 22 days remaining, only about 15 would be good enough to fish due to the weather. The sixth reason was there are reports of better loads of seed stock being taken. Seventh reason was not allowing the extension for only a few boats, but would allow any fisherman that wants to utilize the area for the ample product that was there. An eighth reason was that the oyster fishermen should be able to move their products at a good price and this should not adversely affect supply and demand. reason for the extension and another important issue was that it

may be the best thing for the resource. Mr. Barisich then showed an example of an oyster being attacked by mussels. When those mussels are removed and die, this could result in the best reef and oysters ever seen. Mr. Barisich concluded asking the Commission to consider all of the facts and decide what was best for all parties concerned. He added further that there was no overwhelming evidence the extension would be detrimental to the resource, but would be an economic enhancement for those fishermen who utilizes the extension. Commissioner Miller asked if the hook mussels on the oyster were a native or invasive species. Mr. Barisich stated they were a native species which has cropped up abundantly over the last three to four years in the Black Bay and Lake Borgne areas. Commissioner Miller asked if the mussels were not removed, would they adversely impact the oysters. Mr. Barisich explained that when the oysters spat, they need a clean surface to catch on to. Commissioner Miller then asked Mr. Barisich to explain how mussels are cleaned off an oyster.

Mr. Raymond Vath stated he has been bedding from Black Bay and the more the area was worked, the better the oysters get. He agreed with Mr. Barisich and commented that the more the mussels are worked, the more they will fall off and the better it would be for everyone.

Representative Ernest Wooton noted he was there to support what Mr. Barisich stated. He was convinced that the fishermen were very concerned with the season closure. Representative Wooton then hoped the season would open for the remaining three weeks.

Commissioner Miller commented that a letter in support of Mr. Barisich's position from Senator Walter Boasso was included in the packet and he asked it be made part of the record.

Mr. Banks stated he respects the fact that the industry would like to see the season extended since meat yield was high and sack prices are good. But that had nothing to do with the available Mr. Banks then reported that a large majority of the available resource has been harvested this year from the Black Bay He estimated that the total harvest was around 73 percent and would be concerned if that area was open for another three In response to Mr. Barisich's comment of no overwhelming increase in boats moving from Black Bay north to the MRGO, boarding report estimates showed there was a considerable number of boats that did make the move north. The reason for the shortened season was that this was the fourth consecutive year of decreased oyster availability in that area. Mr. Banks disagreed with the comment that additional harvest would not negatively affect the resource. He agreed that the mussels are good spat material, but added they have been in the area for the last several years and the fishermen have been working them all season long. A majority of the boats on the water north of the MRGO say they want to see the season closed

since there was not much resource left and the Department's samples showed this as well. In response to what Representative Wooton said about the production numbers being high, Mr. Banks stated those numbers would remain high until all of the resource was He felt it was the Department's job to leave some resource to provide sustainability of the resource. Commissioner Mouton asked Mr. Banks how many boats was he talking about. Banks commented that Morgan Harbor usually had two to three boats each week, but it was documented there were 11 boats for the week and they were not having much success. Also, it was documented there were 14 boats in the Lake Borgne area north of the MRGO and 11 of those came from the Black Bay area. Commissioner Mouton asked about the comment made, which could not be confirmed, that some fishermen were removing a large percentage of reef material along with seed oyster loads. Mr. Banks stated that there were calls received, but the Department did not have time to board boats; however, one case was confirmed 90 percent of that oyster seed load was shell.

Mr. John Roussel stated there were two requests, the first was to extend the season in the Black Bay area south of the MRGO and closed April 1. Subsequent to that, there has been a request to extend the season in the area north of the MRGO. This area was to close on April 30, but the Secretary decided to close a portion of that area earlier on April 8. This early closure was prompted by the level of utilization of the resource during the season and hurricane impact which caused mortality. Mr. Roussel concluded stating the Department does not recommend any adjustments in the closing dates as set.

Mr. Dennis Pixon, an oyster fisherman, stated he agreed with Mr. Banks and Mr. Roussel not to extend the season. He felt this year has been the worst season since 1991 and seemed senseless to extend the season. Mr. Pixon added that by closing the season on April 1, the reefs that have been heavily worked since September would have a chance for the spat to take. If fishing would be continued after April 1, that spat would be disturbed.

Commissioner Denmon felt the whole issue centered on whether the resource was available for harvest or not. He then asked if there was a way to tell if enough has been taken from an area and if there was enough seed for next year. Mr. Banks stated stock assessments are taken on the reefs and then staff assesses the harvest throughout the year and this would give a percent utilization of the resource. Historically in the Black Bay area that percent utilization was between 30-35 percent. This year, the harvest was already around 72.3 percent and if additional resource was taken, this could jeopardize the resource for future years. Commissioner Denmon asked if there was a numerical quantification that could tell how much resource should be left for seed. Mr. Roussel stated the public seed grounds serves as a source of seed for leaseholders to plant on their leases and allows the take of

oysters above 3 inches directly to the market. This depends on hydrological conditions which may cause high or low production years. At this time, the trend was going down not due to harvest issues, but environmental issues. Commissioner Denmon then asked if the bottom line was there was no available resource that should be taken and he was told he was correct. Chairman Sagrera stated that what would be normal would be around 30 percent, but since harvest was around 70 percent now, that equated to a 200 percent increase. Mr. Banks agreed with Mr. Roussel in stating that the resource available was on a downward slide. Hearing no further questions or comments, Chairman Sagrera asked the pleasure of the Commission and no action was taken.

Chairman Wayne Sagrera then asked for the Ducks Unlimited Presentation. Mr. Ross Melinchuk wanted to present how the money the Commission grants to Ducks Unlimited is multiplied and used on the breeding grounds. But first he recognized several volunteers and staff members that attended the meeting. Mr. Melinchuk began stating there are two basic premises that DU was proceeding on and that was habitat was the foundation for maintaining continental waterfowl populations and funds invested was being directed toward the continent the Louisiana's ducks are derived from. Of all the ducks banded in Saskatchewan Canada, 57 percent are recovered in Louisiana. In the late 1980's, all of the states came together in an attempt to raise \$10 million per year to send to Canada to support the North American Plan. Ducks Unlimited pledged to match those funds, dollar to dollar. Louisiana's share for this program was almost \$1 million. A chart was shown that compared Louisiana with its neighboring states in annual contributions to Ducks Unlimited. Back in 1965, Louisiana began seeing the value of doing work on the breeding grounds and Mr. Melinchuk thanked Louisiana for its annual contributions over the past 40 years which has totaled over \$8 million. This year about \$2.65 million would be collected from 30 states to do work in Canada to which that would be matched by Ducks Unlimited, then the North American Wetlands Conservation Act funds would federally match the \$5.3 million and the Canadians would match about 25 percent for a grand total of \$13.25 million. Louisiana's contribution of \$248,000 translates into more than \$1.5 million when it is matched. Mr. Melinchuk then introduced Mr. Pat Kehoe who would talk about the accomplishments on the breeding grounds.

Mr. Kehoe stated DU Canada's strategy was to build a waterfowl legacy that included habitat in the proper condition and landscape sustainable with agricultural interests in the prairies that would produce ducks. Over 70 percent of the Continent's ducks originate in the western region of Canada. Over 80 percent of the factors affecting duck production occurs on the breeding grounds. Within the last two years, nest success has ranged from 11 percent to 50 percent on natural habitat on the Canadian prairies, and Mr. Kehoe felt this was a good return for the work. The Coteau Legacy, which

Louisiana's dollars are funding, is the heart of the breeding grounds and extends from Saskatoon to Sioux City. The duck density within that area is high, but there has been major impacts to that land through agriculture. Duck species that breed on the Coteau range from gadwall to teal, coots and many other shorebirds. plan for the area was to protect the best habitat that remains, improve or restore the function to areas that have been degraded, and to compensate for ongoing habitat loss on the Coteau. first goal, which will occur within 5 years of the current agreement with Louisiana, would protect over 250,000 acres of existing prairie grassland and associated uplands habitats from any further loss. The second goal was to improve the function of over 1 million acres of the prairie through promoting conservation forages and grazing management. The third goal was to target 77,000 acres of habitat to offset the loss that was occurring through conversion to perennial coverage and forage. As far as accomplishments for the year, Mr. Kehoe stated they achieved protecting 102,000 acres at a cost of \$601,000 Canadian. The second goal has nearly been achieved with 219,000 acres of restoration at a cost of \$309,000. The achievement of compensation for habitat loss was set at 18,000, but only achieved 13,000 at a cost of \$400,000. Overall, for the past 2 years of the 5 year plan, Mr. Kehoe felt the program has done well. He then talked about land purchases in Saskatchewan and conservation forages in which the goals were not achieved. Mr. Kehoe stated a final report would be presented to the Commission in June. Finally, a report on the habitat in the Canadian prairies noted that there was good snowfall, great runoff and conditions are looking better than they have in the last four years.

He then turned the presentation over to Mr. Chad Courville. Courville stated he would talk on what was going on in Louisiana. Louisiana has been fortunate in receiving a certain amount of money allocated to coastal states which has helped with coastal restoration. Work by Ducks Unlimited on public lands within the state would be presented in a final report for the Commission and Department by June. The basis for working in the state was due to habitat loss and one program to help with this problem was the Wetlands Reserve Program that primarily restores bottomland hardwood and small shallow water areas. Through technical assistance, Ducks Unlimited goes out and identifies opportunities for landowners to better manage their property for waterfowl. Also Ducks Unlimited was helping Louisiana through two science based plans of teaching what should be left on the landscape and what waterfowl needs on that landscape to get through the winter. Accomplishments within the state are 5,000 acres of earthen terraces primarily in southwest Louisiana, hydrologic restorations throughout coastal Louisiana, and some work at the mouth of the Mississippi River. Mr. Courville felt there were a lot of research needs in Louisiana and some projects involving Ducks Unlimited and the Department included mallard telemetry study, earthen terraces and ongoing work on Catahoula Lake. Concluding, Mr. Courville stated he was based in Lafayette and would be willing to talk further with the Commission on programs in the State. Mr. Melinchuk thanked the Commission and hoped everyone was pleased in how Louisiana's funds were being spent.

Public Comments - 2005-07 Seasons and WMA Rules & Regulations began with Chairman Sagrera asking all of those that wanted to speak to limit their time to three to five minutes.

Mr. Rudy Sparks stated he represented Williams, Inc. and other hunting clubs that totaled about 110,000 acres of private lands within an area bounded on the north by I-10, on the east by the East Guide Levee of the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway, on the west by the West Guide Levee of the Basin Floodway, and Highway 90 on the They have received numerous complaints about the use of dogs trespassing on private lands. Mr. Sparks noted there are a lot of small state-owned parcels of land within the Basin and individuals would release their dogs on those lands, the dogs would chase deer through private lands onto state waterbottoms or to private water canals to kill the deer. They felt this was a very serious issue, the lessees have become very frustrated. Another problem that was integral for the whole issue was the area is a floodway, it can fluctuate six to eight feet in any one season. This entrapment of deer on small areas during flooding would negate all of the efforts by the lessees by managing the resource. Mr. Sparks felt the time was now to consider prohibiting the hunting of deer in the lower Basin area with dogs and limit it to still Commissioner Mouton asked if there has been language added to the leases to not allow hunting with dogs in the area. Mr. Sparks stated there has been a move over the last 5 years to put that language in on a voluntary basis. Commissioner King asked if the water and flooding was creating a problem, should it not be closed to still hunters as well as dog hunters? Also, he asked Mr. Sparks if he had documentation to prove intent on the dog hunters? Mr. Sparks stated he did not have documentation, but knew how the hunters were operating. Commissioner King commented that dog hunters have rights in Louisiana also. Mr. Sparks agreed, but added that so do the hunters that pay for leases on private properties. Commissioner King asked if there was documentation on the overharvest of deer in the area. Mr. Sparks answered no. Chairman Sagrera stated, when a high water situation occurred, an area has been closed at the discretion of the Department. Sparks asked the Commission to consider a step towards advancing the responsible management of the resource.

Mr. Brandon Stockstill, a landowner in the Atchafalaya Basin, began giving a brief history of the Bayou Chene area where his family originated from. In 1950, the post office for Bayou Chene closed and thus closed the community. Between that time and early 1960's, many families continued their homesteads and built camps there. The only accessible way to get to this area is by boat, Mr.

Stockstill added. His concern was a trespass issue and that stemmed from the dog hunters. As far as numbers of dogs, he noted from 30 to 100 dogs are released at a time. Mr. Stockstill then relayed an experience that occurred the previous season when rifles and shotguns were fired within 100 yards of his camp and knew that this type of hunting has gone on for the past 10 to 20 years. During his discussion, Mr. Stockstill referred to "they" and stated that was for those hunters that do not own land but were suppose to be hunting on state lands. In another instance, he knew that there were 22 deer killed in under two hours time and the only reason the killing stopped was he called the Sheriff's Office. A deputy did not show, but an Enforcement Agent did only since a threat was He then asked to eliminate deer hunting with dogs, not only made. for deer management, but for a family community aspect. Stockstill then informed Commissioner King he has documentation that a certain amount of deer was slaughtered during high water and noted he was actively prosecuting several hunters. Commissioner King asked that the information be sent to him.

Mr. Joey Davis stated in 1989, the Department conducted a survey of deer hunters asking them if they would prefer more still hunting days or more dog hunting days. According to the abstract, 82 percent of the respondents preferred more still hunting days and less hunting with dogs. He felt, if more up to date information was available, it would be the same or a greater percentage wanting still hunting only. Mr. Davis then asked that all of Area 6 be turned into still hunting only.

Mr. Mike Prevost, a 5,000 acre landowner, stated he has a lot of problem with dogs going on his property almost every weekend. This activity was ruining their hunts. He also noted that their hunting before the dog season began was great, but once the dog season opened, the deer turn nocturnal.

Mr. Troy Landry stated he leases about 3,000 acres in the lower Basin adjacent to state land, and the reason he chose that area was so they would not be bothered by other hunters. However hunters put dogs on the lands while they stay in their boats and not trespassing and then within two hours, all of the hunting was over. Mr. Landry felt it was time to do something about the problem of hunters not being able to control their dogs. He stated that he has been in the Basin for 15 years and the problem has occurred for 15 years. He thought the only way to stop the problem was to eliminate the dogs within the Basin.

Mr. Vic Blanchard, a forester and wildlife biologist for A. Wilbert and Sons, stated they represent about 40,000 acres in the Basin of which about 117 clubs are in this area. He echoed the remarks of Mr. Sparks and noted they were very concerned from a trespass, liability issue and from a resource management position. As a private landowner, he asked the Commission to consider the request by the landowners and the lessees as well.

Mr. Stanley Leece, a small landowner in the Basin, stated people that hunt with dogs do have rights, but noted there has been a trend to attract more game onto their property. But one of the disruptions that occurs is when dogs are turned loose and this leads to a level of frustration. Mr. Leece felt there was a trend toward still hunting only and asked for help in a compromise that would benefit all hunters.

Mr. James LaGroan, an owner of Whiskey Bay Island, LLC, stated he used to be on the opposite side of the dog hunting issue. He commented that he owned 17 dogs, would turn them loose, and then recover them a day or two later 10 to 20 miles from where they were released. But now, a lot of time and money was being spent developing food plots, timber stand improvements for deer and turkey, and duck habitat improvements. This not only disrupts the deer herd but also the turkeys and small game as well. Mr. LaGroan felt as the season gets later and the dog hunters have a harder time jumping deer, they would get closer and closer to his property line. He asked the Commission to consider the issue and to ban completely dog hunting in the lower Atchafalaya Basin.

Mr. Kirk Curry stated he felt the same as all of the other speakers and added that the hunting was getting really bad in the Basin. He requested that the deer dogs be stopped since a lot of them have no respect for private landowners.

Mr. Philip Roberts, 18 Oaks Hunting Club, echoed what was stated about dog hunting. He felt the dog hunting situation has gotten worse and worse each year since he began deer hunting. His concern was, unless an agreement was reached from a management standpoint, then what would be left for the youth.

Mr. Daniel Edgar, President of Buckskin Hunting Club, a 14,000 acre club in the Basin, stated that all the people at the meeting represented about 60,300 acres of property. In reference to a map, Mr. Edgar stated they had a lot more support than what was shown. Back in the 1970's, he noted he was on the opposite side of the still hunting issue in Area 7. He also explained that before he was a dog hunter, he was a dog dealer. The area he was interested in protecting in the Basin was so vulnerable. Mr. Edgar stated it was impossible to try to dog hunt in the Basin and not bother other He added that they switched to still hunting for deer since it was a proven fact that it was the only management tool Mr. Edgar knew of one club that killed 28 deer on that works. opening day within their 250 acres. When they kill that many deer, those hunters end up on his property the next day to hunt. area they were asking be prohibited to deer dog hunting was inside the Basin south of I-10, not all of Area 6.

Mr. Dave Moreland stated there are a lot of issues and concerns with the problem. He met with the Enforcement staff from that area and they have serious concerns and a closer look was needed before

a decision was made. Col. Winton Vidrine added they have received more complaints from the Basin area than they have in the last several years. Mr. Jimmy Anthony felt the landowners have made a good case and it needed further studying before a decision was Chairman Sagrera asked if there was still time in the process to change. Mr. Moreland stated staff could come back at the next meeting with a recommendation. Commissioner Miller read from a report from the Louisiana Deer Management Task Force on white-tailed deer, and asked what was the minimum size tract that a hunter should be able to control his dogs without infringing on property rights of other landowners and hunters. Mr. Moreland stated a report from Texas indicated 10,000 acres was their minimum, Georgia works with 1,000 acres, but he felt 2,500 acres would be a sufficient size to keep dogs within their land. added that from the current harvest survey, 85 percent of hunters still hunt only. Commissioner Miller, referring to the map, stated a great deal of the Basin appeared to be occupied by hunters that do not wish to have dog hunting. Mr. Moreland commented that the group indicated they have additional support for their request, but that was not indicated on the map. He asked that the group finish the map in order to show what support they do have. Referring to a comment from Commissioner King, Mr. Moreland stated he has discussed with biologist that perhaps a high water mark should be indicated for the Basin or at least for Attakapas WMA.

Commissioner King told the audience that he was a still hunter, but dog hunters have rights across the state as well as in the Basin. If those hunters are infringing, then that should be addressed. He did not want to see the culture of dog hunting trampled upon and wanted to continue to keep it available where lawful. Chairman Sagrera asked the Department to study the issue and report back by the next meeting. He then continued with other public comments on hunting.

Mr. Randy Seibert, representing Plaquemines Parish, Area 6, stated this was the third year he asked that bowhunting stay with an October 1 opening. Last year the hunters for Area 6 north of Highway 90 got what they wanted, and south of Highway 90 also got what they wanted. But the proposal from the Department was to make Area 6 unified and the first two weeks of October would be for bucks only. He understood that the reason was that most does may still have their spotted fawns with them. He asked that bowhunting open on October 1 for either-sex hunting. Mr. Moreland stated staff was trying to make Area 6 uniform and that by October 1 in the northern portion of Area 6, 100 percent of the fawns are two In the lower portion of Area 6, it was months of age or less. documented that 50 percent of the fawns were aged two months or less. Mr. Moreland added that hunting opportunity was still being provided on October 1 with the bucks only season and the extension through February 15.

Mr. Joey Rhodes also stated this was his third year in asking that the bow season open on October 1. Last year's schedule worked fine, but the proposed intent for this year was to remove the either-sex for this season from October 1 to October 15 south of Highway 90 and make it bucks only throughout all of Area 6. there was to be a move to unify Area 6, Mr. Rhodes felt it should be done for the bow and gun seasons. In his area, Plaquemines Parish of Area 6, they manage their deer herd during the bow season by harvesting does. By protecting the fawns and does at the beginning of the season and extending the season, Mr. Rhodes commented that the does are bred at the end of the season and this was another problem. Again, he stated that by taking away doe hunting the first two weeks of the season was hurting their conservation efforts. Mr. Rhodes ended by pleading that Area 6 be unified as much as possible, but simply draw a line along Highway 90 and allow the lower portion to take bucks and does from October 1 through the beginning of gun season.

Mr. M. A. Young stated he sympathized with the landowners in that hunters cannot control dogs, and as a landowner, he did not want any dogs on his property. He then stated that man-made waterways have been created by oil and gas companies, and now after years of hunting and fishing, people are being denied the right to pass through those areas since it was private property. Mr. Young felt the taxes he paid supports his rights to pass on that canal. Chairman Sagrera stated the Commission had no control over that Mr. Young then wanted to ask several questions on duck hunting. The first question was why does Ducks Unlimited not favor predator control. He felt if predators were contained, there would be higher nest success. Secondly, he wanted to know why the state was divided into an east and west zone when hunting for ducks and Then he asked why the seasons could not end as far back into January as possible and at the same time for both zones. Also he asked that Col. Vidrine explain the concept of baiting and what constitutes baiting. Mr. Young then talked about raising and releasing birds in Louisiana and that the state was against this concept. But he noted North Carolina and South Carolina was doing it with success and suggested contacting those states and find out about their success. Chairman Sagrera interrupted Mr. Young again and stated the baiting issue was not a Commission issue, but Federal. Col. Vidrine stated he would explain the baiting regulations after the meeting, but did note that it was not illegal to hunt in a standing crop that has been flooded. An example that constitutes baiting was when a hunter hauls rice grain from a bin to a field.

Mr. Keith Joubert stated he was at the last meeting requesting a portion of Area 2 be put back into Area 8. He added that he attended the public meeting in Lake Charles and felt the support for the move was very strong at 80-90 percent. A petition from the meeting contained two pages of signatures for putting that area back into Area 2 and no signatures were against it. He again asked

that his request be granted. Mr. Moreland stated there was very strong support at the Lake Charles meeting and there has been nothing heard from the group that came last year with their request. Area 8 provides the best opportunity to hunt deer with guns during the peak of the rutting time. Commissioner King asked if they could move forward with the request. Commissioner Mouton made a motion that a portion of Area 2 as requested be moved back into Area 8. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

Mr. Harry Evans thanked the Commission for their action. He felt the public supported the request and the biology showed it was a good move.

Mr. Darrell Delaney stated he wanted to talk about the mechanical duck. He understood that the Mississippi Flyway Council would consider prohibiting the use of the mechanical ducks. He then talked about baiting. He asked that any help from Mr. Robert Helm and the Mississippi Flyway Council would be appreciated.

Hearing no further comments, the Chairman stated they would take all of the comments under advisement and report back at the next Then Mr. Anthony stated there were 10 public meetings held throughout the State and the biggest was in Bossier Parish, followed by Alexandria. He felt there was a lot more participation this year due to the deer tagging issue. Very little comments were received on the proposed Notice of Intent and there would be no recommended changes. The two biggest issues was dog hunting-still hunting conflicts and too many either-sex days. Then Mr. Anthony noted he had changes the staff wanted to recommend. lottery hunt would be added to Sherburne WMA. The hunt would be held during Christmas week and would be conducted from permanent stands in areas that are not open to the general public. Also on the South Farm on Sherburne WMA, youth would be allowed to hunt deer on Monday, Wednesday and Friday during the Christmas holidays. Donations from the South Louisiana Chapter of QDM, the Central Chapter of QDM and several others was being used to construct the deer stands. A youth lottery waterfowl hunt for the North Farm on Sherburne WMA would be added. Blinds would be constructed and there will be two youths per blind along with a guardian as well as a technician or biologist. The next change was the closing date for the archery season in Area 6 to February 15 instead of the second Sunday in February. Changes for muzzleloader season included: taking two days from Area 4; Area 6 would be reduced by one day on the last segment; changing the season in Areas 3, 7 and 8 since there would be a conflict with it opening the same day as the squirrel season. The corrected dates for 2006-07 season would be October 14-20 and for 2007-08, it would be October 13-19. would also cause the still hunting season to open later, in 2006-07 on October 21 and for 2007-08, it would open October 20. Muzzleloader seasons would open on Bodcau WMA from November 28-Additional days for raccoon nighttime hunting was December 4.

added on West Bay and Sabine Island, and Boise-Vernon would open on January 2 instead of January 7. A youth deer hunt would be added on Lake Boeuf WMA which would occur on October 29-30. Mr. Anthony then read language that would clarify the Pointe-aux-Chenes WMA vessel access. The Thistlethwaite heirs asked to be exempted from the regulation that allows hunters retrieve their deer by going off The last request was to approve the season dates for the Jean Lafitte National and Historic Park as read by Mr. Anthony. Commissioner Denmon asked if there was a way to get that information sooner before having to make a decision. Mr. Anthony stated he would get this information to the Commissioners before the next meeting. Then Commissioner Denmon added that he would be for any additional youth hunting opportunities, but was not certain about the adjustment to the seasons. He asked about moving the dog hunting back one week in Area 2. Mr. Moreland stated there was a week added for the with or without dog hunting segment which disrupted the 50-50 parity between that segment and the still hunting segment. In order to maintain that equity, one week was moved into the still hunting season. Commissioner Miller stated he received a number of calls on the same issue, but the majority were pleased with the parity being restored. Mr. Moreland stated he would report at the next meeting on the tagging issue. From the website poll, about 91 percent of the 700 comments were in favor of tagging. Commissioner Miller asked Mr. Anthony to highlight the proposed changes that were being recommended. Mr. Anthony stated he would develop a list of changes. He added that all of the seasons would be presented in a generic format at the next meeting.

South Louisiana Quality Deer Management Association Presentation of Check to Department for Deer Stand Acquisition for Youth Hunts on Sherburne WMA began with Mr. Dave Moreland stating he invited Mr. Vic Blanchard to the meeting. Mr. Blanchard is a member of the Quality Deer Management Association and very active in deer management issues and concerns. Mr. Blanchard turned Roland Dugas, presentation over to Mr. President of Association. Mr. Dugas stated a lot of the discussion heard was on deer hunting and felt quality deer management was a big topic in Louisiana. Since they have been fortunate in their fund raising activities, he announced that \$1,000 would be donated to construct deer stands for the Sherburne WMA. He then added a QDMA field day would be held on April 30 in Clinton and Mr. Dugas invited everyone to come out. He thanked the Department and staff for recognizing quality deer management was becoming popular in the State.

On the next item, Mr. Phil Bowman began with a brief background on the Notice of Intent - Rules for Possession of Constrictors Over 12' and Venomous Snakes. Three years ago, a 14 foot Burmese python got loose from Tangipahoa Parish and it took two weeks to find it. When they found it, a fairly large dog had been killed. This resulted in a great deal of concern and an amendment was added to a bill that directed the Department to adopt regulations on

constricting snakes over 12 feet in length and poisonous snakes. He then introduced Dr. Jeff Boundy who would highlight the proposed rule. Dr. Boundy stated the proposed rule was written by members of the Louisiana Reptile and Amphibian Task Force and then reviewed by Enforcement, Legal and the biologists in the Department. proposal included a list of snakes, requirements for individuals that wish to possess venomous snakes, provisions on how they are to be kept, how they are to be maintained to prevent escape and the safety of the owners and those in the area of the snakes, and penalties for violations. Dr. Boundy then went over several changes recommended by Legal. Commissioner Miller asked why was the limit 12 feet in length on the snakes or could smaller snakes Mr. Bowman stated Act 1221 from the 2003 Regular be discussed. Session referred to snakes over 12 feet. Hearing no further questions from the Commission, Chairman Sagrera asked for public comments.

Mr. Bill Watts, Louisiana Gulf Coast Herpetological Society, stated they have worked with the Task Force to draft the regulations. They believe the regulations presented are fair and equitable for all concerned.

Mr. Theron Magers, Chairman of the Reptile and Amphibian Task Force, stated he supported the regulations as proposed.

Chairman Sagrera asked Dr. Boundy to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Denmon made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Notice of Intent are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES April 7, 2005

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, April 7, 2005.

- WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Legislature, pursuant to Act 1221, has directed the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to promulgate rules and regulations regarding the private possession of venomous snakes, and constricting snakes over twelve feet long, and
- WHEREAS, authority to adopt rules and regulations necessary to manage Louisiana's reptile resources is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:632B, and

- WHEREAS, this action will establish a permit system and set guidelines for the private possession of potentially dangerous snakes, and
- WHEREAS, the Louisiana Reptile and Amphibian Task Force, and the Commission and Department staff have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information, now
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules and regulations affecting the private possession of venomous snakes, and constricting snakes over twelve feet long, are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as a Notice of Intent.

Wayne J. Sagrera, Chairman Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby advertise their intent to require permits for private possession of constrictor snakes in excess of twelve feet long and of venomous snakes.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XV. Reptiles and Amphibians

Chapter 1. Guidelines

§101. Recreational and Commercial Harvests; Prohibitions

A.-J. * * *

K. Venomous and Large Constricting Snakes

1. The importation and/or private possession of constrictor snakes in excess of twelve (12) feet, including but not limited to the following species Apodora papuana (Papuan python), Liasis olivacea, (Olive python), Morelia spilota (Carpet or Diamond python), Morelia kinghorni (Scrub python), Morelia amethystina (Amethystine python), Python natalensis (Southern African python), Python sebae (African Rock python), Python molurus (Indian or Burmese python), Python reticulatus (Reticulate python), any species of the genus Boa (Boa constrictors), and any species of the genus Eunectes (Anacondas), and venomous snakes, (hereinafter

"restricted snakes") obtained in any manner, shall be by permit issued by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries except for animals kept by animal sanctuaries, zoos, aquariums, wildlife research centers, scientific organizations, and medical research facilities as defined in the Animal Welfare Act as found in the United States Code Title 7, Chapter 54, 2132(e).

<u>Venomous Snakes - any species under current taxonomic standing recognized to belong to the Families Viperidae (Pitvipers and Vipers), Elapidae (Cobras and Mambas), Hydrophiidae (Sea Snakes), Atractaspididae (Mole Vipers), as well as the genera Dispholidus, Thelotornis, and Rhabdophis of the Family Colubridae only.</u>

- a. Any person requesting a permit to allow importation and/or private possession of venomous snakes shall demonstrate no less than one year of substantial, practical experience (to consist of no less than 500 hours) in the care, feeding, handling, and/or husbandry of the species for which the permit is sought, or other species within the same zoological order, which are substantially similar in size, characteristics, care, and nutritional requirements to the species for which the permit is sought.
- b. For the purpose of demonstrating compliance, applicants shall submit documentation of such experience, including a detailed description of the experience acquired, the dates and time frames the experience was obtained and the specific location(s) where it was acquired, and references of no less than two individuals having personal knowledge of your stated experience. Personal reference letters do not need to be authored by venomous reptile permit holders. Additional documentation may include records of prior permits for the keeping of venomous reptiles, employment records, or any other competent documentation of the required experience.
- c. Documented educational experience in zoology or other relevant biological sciences obtained at the college or technical school level or above may substitute for up to 250 hours of the required experience. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall be responsible for judgment of the adequacy of the documentation.
- <u>d.</u> <u>Applicant must be at least 18 years old at the time of application.</u>
- e. Notification of relocation of facilities shall be made within thirty (30) days of a move, and permittee shall be allowed to keep the animals in the same setup(s) until the inspection of the facility and/or room and cages within which the animals are to be kept at the new location can be undertaken by Department of Wildlife & Fisheries personnel.

- f. In the event of an escape where a constrictor snake in excess of twelve (12) feet or a venomous snake escapes its cage and its secure containment room, and becomes outside the control of the permit holder and/or owner, notification shall immediately be made to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries emergency notification number.
- g. A secure transport container shall be required to transport venomous snakes away from any field collection sites.
- h. Those persons who can prove prior ownership of restricted snakes have 90 days from the final ruling to obtain a permit from the Department.
- i. Restricted snakes shall be kept in secure, escape proof enclosures with doors that lock, or such secure enclosures shall be enclosed in secure, escape proof rooms that are kept locked except when the animals are being fed, the cages are being cleaned, or otherwise worked by the person trained and experienced in proper care, handling, and use of the species being maintained. Entrance doors shall be kept securely locked on all outdoor enclosures to prevent escape and unauthorized intrusion and the enclosure shall be equipped with barriers to prevent visitors from falling into enclosures that are constructed below ground level.
- j. Facilities that house constrictor snakes in excess of twelve (12) feet or venomous snakes in private possession shall be open to inspection prior to issuance of a permit and at other times deemed necessary to ensure compliance with the permit by Department of Wildlife and Fisheries personnel or other persons authorized by Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to perform such inspections.
- k. Any non-permitted individual in possession of restricted snakes shall have thirty (30) days to obtain a permit. Any individual who possesses restricted snakes in a manner not compliant with this rule shall have thirty (30) days to demonstrate compliance to Department of Wildlife and Fisheries personnel. Any individual who remain non-compliant after thirty (30) days shall forfeit all restricted snakes to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries personnel, who may dispose of the snakes in any manner.
- l. A first violation of this section will result in a five-year period of probation; a violation during the probationary period shall be considered a second violation, and will result in a one-year suspension of the permit; a third violation will result in a five-year suspension of a permit.
- $\underline{L}K$. Except as provided in subsection K, whoever violates the provisions of this rule shall be fined not less than twenty-five

dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, or imprisoned for not less than thirty days, or both.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6(10), (13), (15) and (25), R.S. 56:23, and R.S. 56:632.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 20:1135 (October 1994), amended LR 31: .

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to Mr. Philip Bowman, Fur & Refuge Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, June 2, 2005.

In accordance with Act #1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R. S. 49:972(B).

Wayne J. Sagrera Chairman

The Bobcat Presentation was handled by Mr. Greg Linscombe. He began stating bobcats occur throughout the United States, southern Canada, Mexico and perhaps into parts of Central America. gestation period on bobcats is 62 days having two to three per litter in Louisiana. Bobcats generally prey on small rodents in Louisiana. The bobcat was historically classified as an outlaw quadruped prior to 1978. Then in 1978, the Legislature decided they should not be harvested due to the value of the pelt and were reclassified as a nongame quadruped furbearer. In the late 1970's, harvest maxed out at 5,600 bobcats with the price topping out at \$80. But as the fur market changed in the early 1980's, so did the prices and the harvest. During the 1990's, harvest was below 1,000 and this year, it was expected harvest to be around 500. The next series of slides showed a Louisiana map with the harvest by region from 1998 through 2004. Mr. Linscombe then explained how Scent Station Surveys were conducted in the 1970's and 1980's to learn about cat distribution. The south central region had the highest visitation rate, followed by southeast region and then northwest. But with changes that have occurred such as planting of 300,000+ acres of bottomland hardwood and pine, mixed pine hardwood

management practices which had shorter rotations created much better conditions for more bobcats. The next slide showed seasons in the adjacent states of Mississippi, Arkansas and Alabama. 2003, the Legislature requested the Commission consider setting a bobcat season. This season was approved and it ran concurrent with the deer hunting season with a bag limit of one. In addition, the Department committed to the Legislature they would monitor the harvest and evaluate the bobcat population. For the survey, 10,000 hunters were randomly pulled, with 6 percent being from each parish. Three mailings were made to get the sample size up and improve the confidence limits which resulted in 45 percent of the 10,000 reporting back. Results included 89 percent of those hunting did deer hunt; 66 percent of those surveyed felt they would shoot a bobcat; 45 percent of the deer hunters reported seeing bobcats; and 6.5 percent reported shooting a bobcat for an estimated harvest of 9,800. The next slide showed the distribution of bobcats from the survey. The northwest region popped out; it even showed bobcats along the levees and ridges of coastal The estimated number of sightings was around 67,000 Louisiana. mainly around bottomland hardwoods and mixed pine hardwoods. Linscombe concluded stating they would continue as committed to conduct the annual bobcat harvest survey, monitor the harvest, harvest distribution and sightings. Commissioner Denmon stated he was heavily involved in legislation that created the season to enhance predator hunting, which was one of the fastest growing sports in the United States. He then hoped that the data proves that there are enough bobcats and move toward allowing the take of bobcats as a practice of predator hunting. Mr. Linscombe felt it was possible after a few more years of data was gathered to better defend that position.

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **August 2005 Meeting** on Thursday, August 4, 2005, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters. Chairman Sagrera announced he would be out of the country for that meeting.

Chairman Sagrera then asked for **Public Comments** and none were heard.

There being no further business, Commissioner Miller made a motion to **Adjourn** the meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Samanie.

Dwight Landreneau

Secretary

DL:scf

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, April 7, 2005

Chairman Wayne Sagrera presiding.

Terry Denmon
Earl King
Frederic Miller
Henry Mouton
Robert Samanie, III

Secretary Dwight Landreneau was also present.

Commissioner Patrick Morrow was absent from the meeting.

There were no Commission Special Announcements for this month.

Secretary Landreneau advised that the Department has been in conversation and negotiations with the company that was in the process of buying out Great Lodge. He officially was informed that Citibank purchased the Department's contract from Great Lodge. The only difference would be a new name, the contract would be the same. Also, Secretary Landreneau noted the first meeting of the White Lake Advisory Board would be held on April 14 at 9:30 and he invited the Commissioners to attend. The orientation meeting would cover the Department, the White Lake property, and how the board would interact with the Department on managing the property. Finally, Secretary Landreneau stated that the Department would address the Commission from a table similar to the format the Legislature follows.

The Monthly Law Enforcement Report for March began with Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze stating there were 1,126 citations and 219 warnings written as well as 65 public assists. The primary activity for the month was boating and the turkey season. The Aviation Report showed two planes flew Enforcement 27.1 hours, Wildlife Division 14.5 hours, Marine Fisheries 6.5 hours, Inland Fisheries 4.5 hours for a total of 52.1 hours. On the boating accident report, there were 11 accidents with 5 injuries and 5 fatalities. He then noted the parishes where those accidents occurred were Orleans, St. Mary, 2 in Concordia, Jefferson Davis, Red River, Cameron, Vermilion, West Baton Rouge, Lafourche and St. Martin. Lt. Col. LaCaze stated they were continuing with boating education on PFD's and refraining from alcohol consumption. Turkey season opened on Good Friday and there were 16 cases made on opening weekend for hunting turkey over

bait, 1 turkey was taken from a moving vehicle, and an over the limit case. The News Releases included a sinking boat on the Dewey Wills WMA and agents help in rescuing four passengers, their property and their boat; an out of season alligator, 12 feet in length, was taken illegally; oyster cases and closed season frogging cases.

Consideration of Oyster Season on Public Grounds and Seed Reservations began with Chairman Sagrera stating that Department closed the area in question for biological reasons. He then asked the staff if they had anything to present first. John Roussel reminded the Commission they received a letter from an oyster industry guide asking the season be extended on the public ovster grounds. Department staff followed-up with a memo addressing some of the issues presented by the industry for the extension. Mr. Roussel then introduced Mr. Patrick Banks and noted he was ready to present information from the season on the public Mr. Banks stated a map of the area showed the closure grounds. dates for the season as it was currently set. The area south of the MRGO and east of the Mississippi River closed April 1, 2005; the area north of the MRGO excluding the Lake Borgne Public Oyster Seed Ground would close on April 8, 2005 by action of the Department's Secretary; and the Lake Borgne Ground would close on April 30, 2005. Hearing no questions from the Commission, Chairman Sagrera asked for public comments.

Mr. George Barisich, President of United Commercial Fisherman Association, thanked the Commission and Department for listening to the proposed request. The request was to reopen a portion of the state seed grounds south of the MRGO, commonly known as Black Bay, until April 30, 2005. He then listed the following reasons for the reopening. First, the oyster fishermen lost a month of work at the beginning of the season and thought they would get it back at the But the Department closed the area north of the MRGO, and they felt there would be a 100 boat influx from the Black Bay area to the north which resulted in the closure. The second reason was the active hurricane season resulted in three weeks of down time for the fishermen. Third, the time and temperature matrix makes it impossible for the Black Bay boaters to relocate in the Lake Borgne The fourth reason and one of the most important was economics; the price for the oysters has shot up drastically making this a highly marketable product. Another reason given by Mr. Barisich was, of the 22 days remaining, only about 15 would be good enough to fish due to the weather. The sixth reason was there are reports of better loads of seed stock being taken. Seventh reason was not allowing the extension for only a few boats, but would allow any fisherman that wants to utilize the area for the ample product that was there. An eighth reason was that the oyster fishermen should be able to move their products at a good price and this should not adversely affect supply and demand. The last reason for the extension and another important issue was that it

may be the best thing for the resource. Mr. Barisich then showed an example of an oyster being attacked by mussels. When those mussels are removed and die, this could result in the best reef and oysters ever seen. Mr. Barisich concluded asking the Commission to consider all of the facts and decide what was best for all parties concerned. He added further that there was no overwhelming evidence the extension would be detrimental to the resource, but would be an economic enhancement for those fishermen who utilizes Commissioner Miller asked if the hook mussels on the extension. the oyster were a native or invasive species. Mr. Barisich stated they were a native species which has cropped up abundantly over the last three to four years in the Black Bay and Lake Borgne areas. Commissioner Miller asked if the mussels were not removed, would they adversely impact the oysters. Mr. Barisich explained that when the oysters spat, they need a clean surface to catch on to. Commissioner Miller then asked Mr. Barisich to explain how mussels are cleaned off an oyster.

Mr. Raymond Vath stated he has been bedding from Black Bay and the more the area was worked, the better the oysters get. He agreed with Mr. Barisich and commented that the more the mussels are worked, the more they will fall off and the better it would be for everyone.

Representative Ernest Wooton noted he was there to support what Mr. Barisich stated. He was convinced that the fishermen were very concerned with the season closure. Representative Wooton then hoped the season would open for the remaining three weeks.

Commissioner Miller commented that a letter in support of Mr. Barisich's position from Senator Walter Boasso was included in the packet and he asked it be made part of the record.

Mr. Banks stated he respects the fact that the industry would like to see the season extended since meat yield was high and sack prices are good. But that had nothing to do with the available resource. Mr. Banks then reported that a large majority of the available resource has been harvested this year from the Black Bay area. He estimated that the total harvest was around 73 percent and would be concerned if that area was open for another three In response to Mr. Barisich's comment of no overwhelming increase in boats moving from Black Bay north to the MRGO, boarding report estimates showed there was a considerable number of boats that did make the move north. The reason for the shortened season was that this was the fourth consecutive year of decreased oyster availability in that area. Mr. Banks disagreed with the comment that additional harvest would not negatively affect the resource. He agreed that the mussels are good spat material, but added they have been in the area for the last several years and the fishermen have been working them all season long. A majority of the boats on the water north of the MRGO say they want to see the season closed

since there was not much resource left and the Department's samples showed this as well. In response to what Representative Wooton said about the production numbers being high, Mr. Banks stated those numbers would remain high until all of the resource was He felt it was the Department's job to leave some resource to provide sustainability of the resource. Commissioner Mouton asked Mr. Banks how many boats was he talking about. Banks commented that Morgan Harbor usually had two to three boats each week, but it was documented there were 11 boats for the week and they were not having much success. Also, it was documented there were 14 boats in the Lake Borgne area north of the MRGO and 11 of those came from the Black Bay area. Commissioner Mouton asked about the comment made, which could not be confirmed, that some fishermen were removing a large percentage of reef material along with seed oyster loads. Mr. Banks stated that there were calls received, but the Department did not have time to board boats; however, one case was confirmed 90 percent of that oyster seed load was shell.

Mr. John Roussel stated there were two requests, the first was to extend the season in the Black Bay area south of the MRGO and closed April 1. Subsequent to that, there has been a request to extend the season in the area north of the MRGO. This area was to close on April 30, but the Secretary decided to close a portion of that area earlier on April 8. This early closure was prompted by the level of utilization of the resource during the season and hurricane impact which caused mortality. Mr. Roussel concluded stating the Department does not recommend any adjustments in the closing dates as set.

Mr. Dennis Pixon, an oyster fisherman, stated he agreed with Mr. Banks and Mr. Roussel not to extend the season. He felt this year has been the worst season since 1991 and seemed senseless to extend the season. Mr. Pixon added that by closing the season on April 1, the reefs that have been heavily worked since September would have a chance for the spat to take. If fishing would be continued after April 1, that spat would be disturbed.

Commissioner Denmon felt the whole issue centered on whether the resource was available for harvest or not. He then asked if there was a way to tell if enough has been taken from an area and if there was enough seed for next year. Mr. Banks stated stock assessments are taken on the reefs and then staff assesses the harvest throughout the year and this would give a percent utilization of the resource. Historically in the Black Bay area that percent utilization was between 30-35 percent. This year, the harvest was already around 72.3 percent and if additional resource was taken, this could jeopardize the resource for future years. Commissioner Denmon asked if there was a numerical quantification that could tell how much resource should be left for seed. Mr. Roussel stated the public seed grounds serves as a source of seed for leaseholders to plant on their leases and allows the take of

oysters above 3 inches directly to the market. This depends on hydrological conditions which may cause high or low production years. At this time, the trend was going down not due to harvest issues, but environmental issues. Commissioner Denmon then asked if the bottom line was there was no available resource that should be taken and he was told he was correct. Chairman Sagrera stated that what would be normal would be around 30 percent, but since harvest was around 70 percent now, that equated to a 200 percent increase. Mr. Banks agreed with Mr. Roussel in stating that the resource available was on a downward slide. Hearing no further questions or comments, Chairman Sagrera asked the pleasure of the Commission and no action was taken.

Chairman Wayne Sagrera then asked for the Ducks Unlimited Presentation. Mr. Ross Melinchuk wanted to present how the money the Commission grants to Ducks Unlimited is multiplied and used on the breeding grounds. But first he recognized several volunteers and staff members that attended the meeting. Mr. Melinchuk began stating there are two basic premises that DU was proceeding on and that was habitat was the foundation for maintaining continental waterfowl populations and funds invested was being directed toward the continent the Louisiana's ducks are derived from. Of all the ducks banded in Saskatchewan Canada, 57 percent are recovered in Louisiana. In the late 1980's, all of the states came together in an attempt to raise \$10 million per year to send to Canada to support the North American Plan. Ducks Unlimited pledged to match those funds, dollar to dollar. Louisiana's share for this program was almost \$1 million. A chart was shown that compared Louisiana with its neighboring states in annual contributions to Ducks Unlimited. Back in 1965, Louisiana began seeing the value of doing work on the breeding grounds and Mr. Melinchuk thanked Louisiana for its annual contributions over the past 40 years which has totaled over \$8 million. This year about \$2.65 million would be collected from 30 states to do work in Canada to which that would be matched by Ducks Unlimited, then the North American Wetlands Conservation Act funds would federally match the \$5.3 million and the Canadians would match about 25 percent for a grand total of \$13.25 million. Louisiana's contribution of \$248,000 translates into more than \$1.5 million when it is matched. Mr. Melinchuk then introduced Mr. Pat Kehoe who would talk about the accomplishments on the breeding grounds.

Mr. Kehoe stated DU Canada's strategy was to build a waterfowl legacy that included habitat in the proper condition and landscape sustainable with agricultural interests in the prairies that would produce ducks. Over 70 percent of the Continent's ducks originate in the western region of Canada. Over 80 percent of the factors affecting duck production occurs on the breeding grounds. Within the last two years, nest success has ranged from 11 percent to 50 percent on natural habitat on the Canadian prairies, and Mr. Kehoe felt this was a good return for the work. The Coteau Legacy, which

Louisiana's dollars are funding, is the heart of the breeding grounds and extends from Saskatoon to Sioux City. The duck density within that area is high, but there has been major impacts to that land through agriculture. Duck species that breed on the Coteau range from gadwall to teal, coots and many other shorebirds. plan for the area was to protect the best habitat that remains, improve or restore the function to areas that have been degraded, and to compensate for ongoing habitat loss on the Coteau. first goal, which will occur within 5 years of the current agreement with Louisiana, would protect over 250,000 acres of existing prairie grassland and associated uplands habitats from any further loss. The second goal was to improve the function of over 1 million acres of the prairie through promoting conservation forages and grazing management. The third goal was to target 77,000 acres of habitat to offset the loss that was occurring through conversion to perennial coverage and forage. As far as accomplishments for the year, Mr. Kehoe stated they achieved protecting 102,000 acres at a cost of \$601,000 Canadian. second goal has nearly been achieved with 219,000 acres of restoration at a cost of \$309,000. The achievement of compensation for habitat loss was set at 18,000, but only achieved 13,000 at a cost of \$400,000. Overall, for the past 2 years of the 5 year plan, Mr. Kehoe felt the program has done well. He then talked about land purchases in Saskatchewan and conservation forages in which the goals were not achieved. Mr. Kehoe stated a final report would be presented to the Commission in June. Finally, a report on the habitat in the Canadian prairies noted that there was good snowfall, great runoff and conditions are looking better than they have in the last four years.

He then turned the presentation over to Mr. Chad Courville. Courville stated he would talk on what was going on in Louisiana. Louisiana has been fortunate in receiving a certain amount of money allocated to coastal states which has helped with coastal restoration. Work by Ducks Unlimited on public lands within the state would be presented in a final report for the Commission and Department by June: The basis for working in the state was due to habitat loss and one program to help with this problem was the Wetlands Reserve Program that primarily restores bottomland hardwood and small shallow water areas. Through technical assistance, Ducks Unlimited goes out and identifies opportunities for landowners to better manage their property for waterfowl. Also Ducks Unlimited was helping Louisiana through two science based plans of teaching what should be left on the landscape and what waterfowl needs on that landscape to get through the winter. Accomplishments within the state are 5,000 acres of earthen terraces primarily in southwest Louisiana, hydrologic restorations throughout coastal Louisiana, and some work at the mouth of the Mississippi River. Mr. Courville felt there were a lot of research needs in Louisiana and some projects involving Ducks Unlimited and the Department included mallard telemetry study, earthen terraces and ongoing work on Catahoula Lake. Concluding, Mr. Courville

stated he was based in Lafayette and would be willing to talk further with the Commission on programs in the State. Mr. Melinchuk thanked the Commission and hoped everyone was pleased in how Louisiana's funds were being spent.

Public Comments - 2005-07 Seasons and WMA Rules & Regulations began with Chairman Sagrera asking all of those that wanted to speak to limit their time to three to five minutes.

Mr. Rudy Sparks stated he represented Williams, Inc. and other hunting clubs that totaled about 110,000 acres of private lands within an area bounded on the north by I-10, on the east by the East Guide Levee of the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway, on the west by the West Guide Levee of the Basin Floodway, and Highway 90 on the They have received numerous complaints about the use of dogs trespassing on private lands. Mr. Sparks noted there are a lot of small state-owned parcels of land within the Basin and individuals would release their dogs on those lands, the dogs would chase deer through private lands onto state waterbottoms or to private water canals to kill the deer. They felt this was a very serious issue, the lessees have become very frustrated. Another problem that was integral for the whole issue was the area is a floodway, it can fluctuate six to eight feet in any one season. This entrapment of deer on small areas during flooding would negate all of the efforts by the lessees by managing the resource. Mr. Sparks felt the time was now to consider prohibiting the hunting of deer in the lower Basin area with dogs and limit it to still Commissioner Mouton asked if there has been language added to the leases to not allow hunting with dogs in the area. Mr. Sparks stated there has been a move over the last 5 years to put that language in on a voluntary basis. Commissioner King asked if the water and flooding was creating a problem, should it not be closed to still hunters as well as dog hunters? Also, he asked Mr. Sparks if he had documentation to prove intent on the dog hunters? Mr. Sparks stated he did not have documentation, but knew how the hunters were operating. Commissioner King commented that dog hunters have rights in Louisiana also. Mr. Sparks agreed, but added that so do the hunters that pay for leases on private properties. Commissioner King asked if there was documentation on the overharvest of deer in the area. Mr. Sparks answered no. Chairman Sagrera stated, when a high water situation occurred, an area has been closed at the discretion of the Department. Sparks asked the Commission to consider a step towards advancing the responsible management of the resource.

Mr. Brandon Stockstill, a landowner in the Atchafalaya Basin, began giving a brief history of the Bayou Chene area where his family originated from. In 1950, the post office for Bayou Chene closed and thus closed the community. Between that time and early 1960's, many families continued their homesteads and built camps there. The only accessible way to get to this area is by boat, Mr.

Stockstill added. His concern was a trespass issue and that stemmed from the dog hunters. As far as numbers of dogs, he noted from 30 to 100 dogs are released at a time. Mr. Stockstill then relayed an experience that occurred the previous season when rifles and shotguns were fired within 100 yards of his camp and knew that this type of hunting has gone on for the past 10 to 20 years. During his discussion, Mr. Stockstill referred to "they" and stated that was for those hunters that do not own land but were suppose to be hunting on state lands. In another instance, he knew that there were 22 deer killed in under two hours time and the only reason the killing stopped was he called the Sheriff's Office. A deputy did not show, but an Enforcement Agent did only since a threat was made. He then asked to eliminate deer hunting with dogs, not only for deer management, but for a family community aspect. Stockstill then informed Commissioner King he has documentation that a certain amount of deer was slaughtered during high water and noted he was actively prosecuting several hunters. Commissioner King asked that the information be sent to him.

Mr. Joey Davis stated in 1989, the Department conducted a survey of deer hunters asking them if they would prefer more still hunting days or more dog hunting days. According to the abstract, 82 percent of the respondents preferred more still hunting days and less hunting with dogs. He felt, if more up to date information was available, it would be the same or a greater percentage wanting still hunting only. Mr. Davis then asked that all of Area 6 be turned into still hunting only.

Mr. Mike Prevost, a 5,000 acre landowner, stated he has a lot of problem with dogs going on his property almost every weekend. This activity was ruining their hunts. He also noted that their hunting before the dog season began was great, but once the dog season opened, the deer turn nocturnal.

Mr. Troy Landry stated he leases about 3,000 acres in the lower Basin adjacent to state land, and the reason he chose that area was so they would not be bothered by other hunters. However hunters put dogs on the lands while they stay in their boats and not trespassing and then within two hours, all of the hunting was over. Mr. Landry felt it was time to do something about the problem of hunters not being able to control their dogs. He stated that he has been in the Basin for 15 years and the problem has occurred for 15 years. He thought the only way to stop the problem was to eliminate the dogs within the Basin.

Mr. Vic Blanchard, a forester and wildlife biologist for A. Wilbert and Sons, stated they represent about 40,000 acres in the Basin of which about 117 clubs are in this area. He echoed the remarks of Mr. Sparks and noted they were very concerned from a trespass, liability issue and from a resource management position. As a private landowner, he asked the Commission to consider the request by the landowners and the lessees as well.

Mr. Stanley Leece, a small landowner in the Basin, stated people that hunt with dogs do have rights, but noted there has been a trend to attract more game onto their property. But one of the disruptions that occurs is when dogs are turned loose and this leads to a level of frustration. Mr. Leece felt there was a trend toward still hunting only and asked for help in a compromise that would benefit all hunters.

Mr. James LaGroan, an owner of Whiskey Bay Island, LLC, stated he used to be on the opposite side of the dog hunting issue. He commented that he owned 17 dogs, would turn them loose, and then recover them a day or two later 10 to 20 miles from where they were released. But now, a lot of time and money was being spent developing food plots, timber stand improvements for deer and turkey, and duck habitat improvements. This not only disrupts the deer herd but also the turkeys and small game as well. Mr. LaGroan felt as the season gets later and the dog hunters have a harder time jumping deer, they would get closer and closer to his property line. He asked the Commission to consider the issue and to ban completely dog hunting in the lower Atchafalaya Basin.

Mr. Kirk Curry stated he felt the same as all of the other speakers and added that the hunting was getting really bad in the Basin. He requested that the deer dogs be stopped since a lot of them have no respect for private landowners.

Mr. Philip Roberts, 18 Oaks Hunting Club, echoed what was stated about dog hunting. He felt the dog hunting situation has gotten worse and worse each year since he began deer hunting. His concern was, unless an agreement was reached from a management standpoint, then what would be left for the youth.

Mr. Daniel Edgar, President of Buckskin Hunting Club, a 14,000 acre club in the Basin, stated that all the people at the meeting represented about 60,300 acres of property. In reference to a map, Mr. Edgar stated they had a lot more support than what was shown. Back in the 1970's, he noted he was on the opposite side of the still hunting issue in Area 7. He also explained that before he was a dog hunter, he was a dog dealer. The area he was interested in protecting in the Basin was so vulnerable. Mr. Edgar stated it was impossible to try to dog hunt in the Basin and not bother other hunters. He added that they switched to still hunting for deer since it was a proven fact that it was the only management tool Mr. Edgar knew of one club that killed 28 deer on that works. opening day within their 250 acres. When they kill that many deer, those hunters end up on his property the next day to hunt. area they were asking be prohibited to deer dog hunting was inside the Basin south of I-10, not all of Area 6.

Mr. Dave Moreland stated there are a lot of issues and concerns with the problem. He met with the Enforcement staff from that area and they have serious concerns and a closer look was needed before

a decision was made. Col. Winton Vidrine added they have received more complaints from the Basin area than they have in the last several years. Mr. Jimmy Anthony felt the landowners have made a good case and it needed further studying before a decision was Chairman Sagrera asked if there was still time in the process to change. Mr. Moreland stated staff could come back at the next meeting with a recommendation. Commissioner Miller read from a report from the Louisiana Deer Management Task Force on white-tailed deer, and asked what was the minimum size tract that a hunter should be able to control his dogs without infringing on property rights of other landowners and hunters. stated a report from Texas indicated 10,000 acres was their minimum, Georgia works with 1,000 acres, but he felt 2,500 acres would be a sufficient size to keep dogs within their land. added that from the current harvest survey, 85 percent of hunters still hunt only. Commissioner Miller, referring to the map, stated a great deal of the Basin appeared to be occupied by hunters that do not wish to have dog hunting. Mr. Moreland commented that the group indicated they have additional support for their request, but that was not indicated on the map. He asked that the group finish the map in order to show what support they do have. Referring to a comment from Commissioner King, Mr. Moreland stated he has discussed with biologist that perhaps a high water mark should be indicated for the Basin or at least for Attakapas WMA.

Commissioner King told the audience that he was a still hunter, but dog hunters have rights across the state as well as in the Basin. If those hunters are infringing, then that should be addressed. He did not want to see the culture of dog hunting trampled upon and wanted to continue to keep it available where lawful. Chairman Sagrera asked the Department to study the issue and report back by the next meeting. He then continued with other public comments on hunting.

Mr. Randy Seibert, representing Plaquemines Parish, Area 6, stated this was the third year he asked that bowhunting stay with an October 1 opening. Last year the hunters for Area 6 north of Highway 90 got what they wanted, and south of Highway 90 also got what they wanted. But the proposal from the Department was to make Area 6 unified and the first two weeks of October would be for bucks only. He understood that the reason was that most does may still have their spotted fawns with them. He asked that bowhunting open on October 1 for either-sex hunting. Mr. Moreland stated staff was trying to make Area 6 uniform and that by October 1 in the northern portion of Area 6, 100 percent of the fawns are two months of age or less. In the lower portion of Area 6, it was documented that 50 percent of the fawns were aged two months or less. Mr. Moreland added that hunting opportunity was still being provided on October 1 with the bucks only season and the extension through February 15.

Mr. Joey Rhodes also stated this was his third year in asking that the bow season open on October 1. Last year's schedule worked fine, but the proposed intent for this year was to remove the either-sex for this season from October 1 to October 15 south of Highway 90 and make it bucks only throughout all of Area 6. there was to be a move to unify Area 6, Mr. Rhodes felt it should be done for the bow and gun seasons. In his area, Plaquemines Parish of Area 6, they manage their deer herd during the bow season By protecting the fawns and does at the by harvesting does. beginning of the season and extending the season, Mr. Rhodes commented that the does are bred at the end of the season and this was another problem. Again, he stated that by taking away doe hunting the first two weeks of the season was hurting their conservation efforts. Mr. Rhodes ended by pleading that Area 6 be unified as much as possible, but simply draw a line along Highway 90 and allow the lower portion to take bucks and does from October 1 through the beginning of gun season.

Mr. M. A. Young stated he sympathized with the landowners in that hunters cannot control dogs, and as a landowner, he did not want any dogs on his property. He then stated that man-made waterways have been created by oil and gas companies, and now after years of hunting and fishing, people are being denied the right to pass through those areas since it was private property. Mr. Young felt the taxes he paid supports his rights to pass on that canal. Chairman Sagrera stated the Commission had no control over that issue. Mr. Young then wanted to ask several questions on duck hunting. The first question was why does Ducks Unlimited not favor predator control. He felt if predators were contained, there would be higher nest success. Secondly, he wanted to know why the state was divided into an east and west zone when hunting for ducks and Then he asked why the seasons could not end as far back into January as possible and at the same time for both zones. Also he asked that Col. Vidrine explain the concept of baiting and what constitutes baiting. Mr. Young then talked about raising and releasing birds in Louisiana and that the state was against this concept. But he noted North Carolina and South Carolina was doing it with success and suggested contacting those states and find out about their success. Chairman Sagrera interrupted Mr. Young again and stated the baiting issue was not a Commission issue, but Federal. Col. Vidrine stated he would explain the baiting regulations after the meeting, but did note that it was not illegal to hunt in a standing crop that has been flooded. An example that constitutes baiting was when a hunter hauls rice grain from a bin to a field.

Mr. Keith Joubert stated he was at the last meeting requesting a portion of Area 2 be put back into Area 8. He added that he attended the public meeting in Lake Charles and felt the support for the move was very strong at 80-90 percent. A petition from the meeting contained two pages of signatures for putting that area back into Area 2 and no signatures were against it. He again asked

that his request be granted. Mr. Moreland stated there was very strong support at the Lake Charles meeting and there has been nothing heard from the group that came last year with their request. Area 8 provides the best opportunity to hunt deer with guns during the peak of the rutting time. Commissioner King asked if they could move forward with the request. Commissioner Mouton made a motion that a portion of Area 2 as requested be moved back into Area 8. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

Mr. Harry Evans thanked the Commission for their action. He felt the public supported the request and the biology showed it was a good move.

Mr. Darrell Delaney stated he wanted to talk about the mechanical duck. He understood that the Mississippi Flyway Council would consider prohibiting the use of the mechanical ducks. He then talked about baiting. He asked that any help from Mr. Robert Helm and the Mississippi Flyway Council would be appreciated.

Hearing no further comments, the Chairman stated they would take all of the comments under advisement and report back at the next Then Mr. Anthony stated there were 10 public meetings held throughout the State and the biggest was in Bossier Parish, followed by Alexandria. He felt there was a lot more participation this year due to the deer tagging issue. Very little comments were received on the proposed Notice of Intent and there would be no recommended changes. The two biggest issues was dog hunting-still hunting conflicts and too many either-sex days. Then Mr. Anthony noted he had changes the staff wanted to recommend. lottery hunt would be added to Sherburne WMA. The hunt would be held during Christmas week and would be conducted from permanent stands in areas that are not open to the general public. Also on the South Farm on Sherburne WMA, youth would be allowed to hunt deer on Monday, Wednesday and Friday during the Christmas holidays. Donations from the South Louisiana Chapter of QDM, the Central Chapter of QDM and several others was being used to construct the deer stands. A youth lottery waterfowl hunt for the North Farm on Sherburne WMA would be added. Blinds would be constructed and there will be two youths per blind along with a guardian as well as a technician or biologist. The next change was the closing date for the archery season in Area 6 to February 15 instead of the second Sunday in February. Changes for muzzleloader season included: taking two days from Area 4; Area 6 would be reduced by one day on the last segment; changing the season in Areas 3, 7 and 8 since there would be a conflict with it opening the same day as the squirrel season. The corrected dates for 2006-07 season would be October 14-20 and for 2007-08, it would be October 13-19. would also cause the still hunting season to open later, in 2006-07 on October 21 and for 2007-08, it would open October 20. Muzzleloader seasons would open on Bodcau WMA from November 28-December 4. Additional days for raccoon nighttime hunting was

added on West Bay and Sabine Island, and Boise-Vernon would open on January 2 instead of January 7. A youth deer hunt would be added on Lake Boeuf WMA which would occur on October 29-30. Mr. Anthony then read language that would clarify the Pointe-aux-Chenes WMA vessel access. The Thistlethwaite heirs asked to be exempted from the regulation that allows hunters retrieve their deer by going off The last request was to approve the season dates for the Jean Lafitte National and Historic Park as read by Mr. Anthony. Commissioner Denmon asked if there was a way to get that information sooner before having to make a decision. Mr. Anthony stated he would get this information to the Commissioners before the next meeting. Then Commissioner Denmon added that he would be for any additional youth hunting opportunities, but was not certain about the adjustment to the seasons. He asked about moving the dog hunting back one week in Area 2. Mr. Moreland stated there was a week added for the with or without dog hunting segment which disrupted the 50-50 parity between that segment and the still hunting segment. In order to maintain that equity, one week was moved into the still hunting season. Commissioner Miller stated he received a number of calls on the same issue, but the majority were pleased with the parity being restored. Mr. Moreland stated he would report at the next meeting on the tagging issue. From the website poll, about 91 percent of the 700 comments were in favor of tagging. Commissioner Miller asked Mr. Anthony to highlight the proposed changes that were being recommended. Mr. Anthony stated he would develop a list of changes. He added that all of the seasons would be presented in a generic format at the next meeting.

South Louisiana Quality Deer Management Association Presentation of Check to Department for Deer Stand Acquisition for Youth Hunts on Sherburne WMA began with Mr. Dave Moreland stating he invited Mr. Vic Blanchard to the meeting. Mr. Blanchard is a member of the Quality Deer Management Association and very active in deer Blanchard turned management issues and concerns. Mr. presentation over to Mr. Roland Dugas, President Association. Mr. Dugas stated a lot of the discussion heard was on deer hunting and felt quality deer management was a big topic in Since they have been fortunate in their fund raising activities, he announced that \$1,000 would be donated to construct deer stands for the Sherburne WMA. He then added a QDMA field day would be held on April 30 in Clinton and Mr. Dugas invited everyone to come out. He thanked the Department and staff for recognizing quality deer management was becoming popular in the State.

On the next item, Mr. Phil Bowman began with a brief background on the Notice of Intent - Rules for Possession of Constrictors Over 12' and Venomous Snakes. Three years ago, a 14 foot Burmese python got loose from Tangipahoa Parish and it took two weeks to find it. When they found it, a fairly large dog had been killed. This resulted in a great deal of concern and an amendment was added to a bill that directed the Department to adopt regulations on

constricting snakes over 12 feet in length and poisonous snakes. He then introduced Dr. Jeff Boundy who would highlight the proposed rule. Dr. Boundy stated the proposed rule was written by members of the Louisiana Reptile and Amphibian Task Force and then reviewed by Enforcement, Legal and the biologists in the Department. The proposal included a list of snakes, requirements for individuals that wish to possess venomous snakes, provisions on how they are to be kept, how they are to be maintained to prevent escape and the safety of the owners and those in the area of the snakes, and penalties for violations. Dr. Boundy then went over several changes recommended by Legal. Commissioner Miller asked why was the limit 12 feet in length on the snakes or could smaller snakes be discussed. Mr. Bowman stated Act 1221 from the 2003 Regular Session referred to snakes over 12 feet. Hearing no further questions from the Commission, Chairman Sagrera asked for public comments.

Mr. Bill Watts, Louisiana Gulf Coast Herpetological Society, stated they have worked with the Task Force to draft the regulations. They believe the regulations presented are fair and equitable for all concerned.

Mr. Theron Magers, Chairman of the Reptile and Amphibian Task Force, stated he supported the regulations as proposed.

Chairman Sagrera asked Dr. Boundy to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Denmon made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Notice of Intent are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES April 7, 2005

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, April 7, 2005.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Legislature, pursuant to Act 1221, has directed the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to promulgate rules and regulations regarding the private possession of venomous snakes, and constricting snakes over twelve feet long, and

WHEREAS, authority to adopt rules and regulations necessary to manage Louisiana's reptile resources is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:632B, and

dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, or imprisoned for not less than thirty days, or both.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6(10), (13), (15) and (25), R.S. 56:23, and R.S. 56:632.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 20:1135 (October 1994), amended LR 31: .

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to Mr. Philip Bowman, Fur & Refuge Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, June 2, 2005.

In accordance with Act #1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R. S. 49:972(B).

Wayne J. Sagrera Chairman

The Bobcat Presentation was handled by Mr. Greg Linscombe. began stating bobcats occur throughout the United States, southern Canada, Mexico and perhaps into parts of Central America. gestation period on bobcats is 62 days having two to three per litter in Louisiana. Bobcats generally prey on small rodents in Louisiana. The bobcat was historically classified as an outlaw quadruped prior to 1978. Then in 1978, the Legislature decided they should not be harvested due to the value of the pelt and were reclassified as a nongame quadruped furbearer. In the late 1970's, harvest maxed out at 5,600 bobcats with the price topping out at \$80. But as the fur market changed in the early 1980's, so did the prices and the harvest. During the 1990's, harvest was below 1,000 and this year, it was expected harvest to be around 500. The next series of slides showed a Louisiana map with the harvest by region from 1998 through 2004. Mr. Linscombe then explained how Scent Station Surveys were conducted in the 1970's and 1980's to learn about cat distribution. The south central region had the highest visitation rate, followed by southeast region and then northwest. But with changes that have occurred such as planting of 300,000+ acres of bottomland hardwood and pine, mixed pine hardwood

management practices which had shorter rotations created much better conditions for more bobcats. The next slide showed seasons in the adjacent states of Mississippi, Arkansas and Alabama. 2003, the Legislature requested the Commission consider setting a bobcat season. This season was approved and it ran concurrent with the deer hunting season with a bag limit of one. In addition, the Department committed to the Legislature they would monitor the harvest and evaluate the bobcat population. For the survey, 10,000 hunters were randomly pulled, with 6 percent being from each Three mailings were made to get the sample size up and improve the confidence limits which resulted in 45 percent of the 10,000 reporting back. Results included 89 percent of those hunting did deer hunt; 66 percent of those surveyed felt they would shoot a bobcat; 45 percent of the deer hunters reported seeing bobcats; and 6.5 percent reported shooting a bobcat for an estimated harvest of 9,800. The next slide showed the distribution of bobcats from the survey. The northwest region popped out; it even showed bobcats along the levees and ridges of coastal The estimated number of sightings was around 67,000 mainly around bottomland hardwoods and mixed pine hardwoods. Linscombe concluded stating they would continue as committed to conduct the annual bobcat harvest survey, monitor the harvest, harvest distribution and sightings. Commissioner Denmon stated he was heavily involved in legislation that created the season to enhance predator hunting, which was one of the fastest growing sports in the United States. He then hoped that the data proves that there are enough bobcats and move toward allowing the take of bobcats as a practice of predator hunting. Mr. Linscombe felt it was possible after a few more years of data was gathered to better defend that position.

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **August 2005 Meeting** on Thursday, August 4, 2005, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters. Chairman Sagrera announced he would be out of the country for that meeting.

Chairman Sagrera then asked for **Public Comments** and none were heard.

There being no further business, Commissioner Miller made a motion to **Adjourn** the meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Samanie.

Dwight Landreneau Secretary

DL:scf

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2theadvocate > Outdoors > Groups ask LWFC for dog ban in basin 04/08/05

Groups ask LWFC for dog ban in basinBy JOE MACALUSO

jmacaluso@theadvocate.com Advocate outdoors writer

Land managers, landowners and hunting club spokesmen turned out Thursday to ask the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to ban the use of dogs for hunting deer in the lower half of the Atchafalaya Basin.

The discussion dominated the public-comment period during the LWFC's monthly meeting.

The basin is in Deer Area 6, a vast area that takes in most south-central and southeastern parishes. There was one call for a ban on deer-dog hunting in Area 6.

Land manager Rudy Sparks said the companies he represents and the deerlease holders of that land said the dog-hunting issue has been building for years. He said hunting deer with dogs has trespass problems and interferes with individual club's whitetail management programs.

Landowner Brandon Stockstill said his family has owned land in the Bayou Chene area and that hunters using dogs have been trespassing for years.

"I've found them on my land and asked the gentlemen to leave. They cursed me and threatened to burn my camp down. There's a wild-west mentality there. They brazenly trespass on the land," Stockstill said.

He said he wants deer hunting with dogs not only to help the management programs but for the safety of his family.

"We want to be in peaceful possession of our property," he said.

Commission member Earl King Jr. told Sparks that dog hunters have rights and that the commission, "...has to be careful not to trample on a culture of dog hunting. Still hunters have archery, muzzleloader and their still-hunting seasons, and the dog hunters have a right to have their season."

The commission will continue the discussion at the May 5 meeting in Baton Rouge.

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The commission also heard a report from Ducks Unlimited officials, including DU-Canada executive Pat Keogh, who said DU's five-year project in the Missouri Coteau is ahead of schedule in most areas, including habitat restoration and habitat preservation. He said the coteau region, which stretches hundreds of miles from Canada's prairieland into South Dakota, is breeding country for most of the ducks that migrate into Louisiana in the fall and winter.

In other action:

- The commission upheld the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries' close of public oyster-seed grounds north and each of the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet. The closure takes effect today;
- Approved the posting of a Notice of Intent to control the ownership and possession of all venomous snakes and constructor snakes measuring 12 or more feet in length;
- Accepted a \$1,000 donation from the South Louisiana Branch of the Quality Deer Management Association. The money is dedicated for building deer stands for youth hunts on the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area;
- Voted to move a part of Deer Area 2 in Allen Parish into Deer Area 8 for the 2005-06 hunting season;
- Learned about several changes the LDWF is proposing to add to the resident-game hunting seasons package for the next three years. Among the changes are additional youth deer and duck lottery hunts, the cut of two days from the muzzleloading season in Deer Area 4 and establishing a permanent Feb. 15 close to the Deer Area 6 archery season;
- Added proposed hunting-season dates for the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in the Barataria Preserve;
- Learned from LDWF secretary Dwight Landreneau that Citibank had purchased Great Lodge, the Tennessee-based company holding the contract to issue all Louisiana hunting and fishing licenses;
- Learned that Enforcement Division agents continued to investigate five boating fatalities on Louisiana waterways during March and that agents issued 1,126 citations and 219 written warnings last month, including 16 citation for allegedly hunting turkeys in baited areas;
- And, voted to hold its August meeting for Aug. 4 in Baton Rouge. It's during the August meeting when migratory waterfowl season dates and bag limits are announced.

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COMMISSION MEETING ROLL CALL

Thursday, April 7, 2005
Baton Rouge, LA
Wildlife and Fisheries Building

	Attended	Absent
Wayne Sagrera (Chairman)	<u> </u>	
Terry Denmon	V	
Fred Miller	<u> </u>	
Henry Mouton	\checkmark	
Earl King	<u> </u>	
Bobby Samanie		
Patrick Morrow		

.Mr. Chairman:

There are _____ Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.

Secretary Landreneau is also present.

AGENDA

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION BATON ROUGE, LA April 7, 2005

9:30 AM

- Roll Call
- 2. Commission Special Announcements
- Ducks Unlimited Presentation Chairman Wayne Sagrera
- Enforcement & Aviation Reports/March Keith LaCaze
- Consideration of Oyster Season on Public Grounds and Seed Reservations Chairman Wayne Sagrera
- Public Comments 2005-07 Seasons and WMA Rules & Regulations Dave Moreland and Jimmy Anthony
- South Louisiana Quality Deer Management Association Presentation of Check to Department for Deer Stand Acquisition for Youth Hunts on Sherburne WMA Vic Blanchard, QDMA
- Notice of Intent Rules for Possession of Constrictors
 Over 12' and Venomous Snakes Jeff Boundy
 - Bobcat Presentation Greg Linscombe
 - 10. Set August 2005 Meeting Date
 - 11. Public Comments
 - 12. Adjournment

ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT MARCH, 2005

REGION 1: MINDEN

PARISHES: BIENVILLE, BOSSIER,

CADDO, CLAIBORNE, WEBSTER, RED RIVER,

DESOTO

TOTAL CASES	48	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION	
12	Boating Safety	
12	Angling W/O Resident License	
5	Angling W/O License – Non-Resident	
4	Fishing W/O Resident Cane Pole License	
1	Take Or Possess Game Fish Illegally (Cast Net)	
1	Hunting W/O Resident License	
2	Hunt Wild Quadrupeds Illegal Hours	
1	Hunt Tı	ırkey W/O Resident Big Game License
1	Hunt Ti	ırkey W/O Turkey Stamp
1	Hunt Turkey Over Baited Area	
2	Illegal S	potlighting From Public Road
6	Intentio	nal Littering

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 12

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION	
7	Boating Safety	
1	Angling W/O Resident License	

<u> </u>	
4	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations On WMA

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION

1 Bushnell Night Vision Scope; 1 Remington 12-Ga. Shotgun; 1 Vector Spotlight; 1 Ambassador 5000 Reel w/Diawa Rod; 1 Cast Net (All Of These Being Held At Region Office); 1 Black Bass; 1 Bream And 1 Buffalo (Returned To The Water)

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 1:

DESCRIPTION
Boating
Commercial Fishing
Federal Migratory
Littering
Miscellaneous
Recreational Fishing
State Hunting/Trapping
Written Warnings

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION	
2	Public Assistance	

REGION 2: MONROE

PARISHES: E. CARROLL, JACKSON,

LINCOLN, MOREHOUSE, OUACHITA, RICHLAND, UNION, W. CARROLL

TOTAL CASES	44	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION	
17	Boating Safety	
2	Littering	
2	Violate Rules and Regulations On WMA	
1	Fish Without A Pole License	
2	Angle Without A Non-Resident License	
1	Obtain License By Fraud	
2	Illegal Possession Of Marijuana	
5	Angle Without A Resident License	
1	Cruelty To Animals	
1	Take Non-Game Quadrupeds Illegally	
1	Felony Contest Fraud	
3	Violate ATV Trail Regulations	
1	Violate Lake D'Arbonne Trot Line Regulations	
1	Sell Fish Without Retain Seafood License	
1	Violate Lake D'Arbonne Yo-yo Regulations	
1	Unattended/Untagged Turtle Traps	

1	Untagged Oysters
1	Fail To Maintain Records

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 20

DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
Angle Without A License
Fish Without A Pole License
Expired Boat Registration
Fail To Display Valid Decal
Fail To Abide By WMA Rules And Regulations
Failure To Change Ownership Of Registration
Improper Running Lights
Take Illegal Size Black Bass
Improper Boat Numbers
Angle Without A Non-Resident License

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION

1-15 1/4" Black Bass (Released), 30- Lane Snapper, 20-Pounds Blue Crab; 1- Rod And Reel Combo; 1- Resident Recreational Fishing License, 1-12 Pt. Buck Mount; 1- Dog; 1- Coyote; 1-Raccoon; 1- Opossum; 14-Chicken Parts

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 2:

DESCRIPTION
Boating
Commercial Fishing
Federal Migratory
Littering
Miscellaneous
Recreational Fishing
State Hunting/Trapping
Written Warnings

TOTAL		DESCRIPTION	
5	Public Assistance		
		,	

REGION 3: ALEXANDRIA

PARISHES: AVOYELLES, GRANT,

NATCHITOCHES, RAPIDES, SABINE, VERNON, WINN

TOTAL CASES	91	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION	
33	Boating	
2	Taking Game Fish Illegally	
2	Violate Recreational Gear License Requirement	
27	Angling W/O A License	
3	Take Illegal Size Black Bass	
3	Take Over Limit Black Bass	
6	Angling W/O A Non-Resident License	
7	Hunt Turkey Over Baited Area	
1	Hunt With Unplugged Gun	
3	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations	
2	Littering	
1	Theft Over \$300.00	
1	Driving Under Suspension	

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 0

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
0	·

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•	u		H.	LO	┖.	-	1	T.	v	1.		

CONFISCATION DESCR	RIPTION	
Nets, 53 Bass		
	CONFISCATION DESCI	CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION Nets, 53 Bass

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 3:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
33	Boating
0	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
2	Littering
2	Miscellaneous
43	Recreational Fishing
11	State Hunting/Trapping
0	Written Warnings

TOTA	L		DESCRIPTION	
5	. . :	Public Assistance		

REGION 4: FERRIDAY

PARISHES: CALDWELL, CATAHOULA, CONCORDIA, FRANKLLIN,

LASALLE, MADISON, TENSAS

TOTAL CASES	35	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION	
10	Boat Safety Violations	
10	Angling W/O A License	
3	Fish W/O Resident Pole License	
1	Violate Recreational Gear License Requirement	
1	Take Game Fish Illegally (Nets)	
1	Use Wire Nets To Take Undersize Catfish	
1	Hunting W/Unplugged Gun	
2	Hunt Or Take Bear Closed Season	
2	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA	
2	Intentional Littering	
1	Littering	
1	Reckless Operation Of A Vehicle	
L		

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 3

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
3	Boating Safety Violations

CONFISCATIONS	5:
---------------	----

	CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION	ON .
1 Bear; 10 Bream;	2 Crappie; 6 Catfish; 1 Rífle	
, ,		

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 4:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
10	Boating
0	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
3	Littering
1	Miscellaneous
16	Recreational Fishing
5	State Hunting/Trapping
3	Written Warnings

TOTAL		DESCRIPTION
13	Public Assistance	·

REGION 5: LAKE CHARLES

PARISHES: BEAUREGARD, CALCASIEU,

EVANGELINE, ALLEN, CAMERON, ACADIA, VERMILION, JEFF DAVIS

TOTAL CASES	112 VERMILION, JEFF DAVIS	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION	
43	Boating	
24	Angling W/O A License	
3	Angling W/O A License Non Resident	
1	Take Or Poss. Undersize Black Drum (Rec.)	
1	Take Or Poss. Overlimit Black Drum (Rec.)	
4	Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/o Retail Seafood License	
3	Fail To Maintain Records	
4	Fail To Abide By Commission Rules	
1	Take/Poss Overlimit Of Snipe	
1	Criminal Trespass On State Property	
2	Illegal Possession Of Drugs Or Marijuana	
1	Illegal Spotlighting From Public Road	
1	Operate A Vessel While Intoxicated	
3	Other Than WLF	
3	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA	
7	Gross Littering	

4	Operate ATV Vehicle On Public Road
6	Intentional Littering
1	1

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 17

DESCRIPTION OF CITATION	
Angling W/O A License	
Operate In Restricted Area	
Improperly Riding On Decks Or Gunwales	
Improper Or No Sound Producing Device	
Failure To Comply W/PFD Requirements	
Improper Or No Fire Extinguisher	
Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA	
	Operate In Restricted Area Improperly Riding On Decks Or Gunwales Improper Or No Sound Producing Device Failure To Comply W/PFD Requirements Improper Or No Fire Extinguisher

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION

6 Bream RTW; 11 Black Drum RTW; 51 Lbs. Shrimp Sold for \$103.00; Pan W/Scales; 2 Ice Chest; Seafood Receipts; 3 Rods; 3 Reels; 2 Marijuana Cigarettes; Littering Items; 9 Snipe Donated.

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 5:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION	
43	Boating	
11	Commercial Fishing	

1	Federal Migratory
13	Littering
11	Miscellaneous
29	Recreational Fishing
1	State Hunting/Trapping
17	Written Warnings
3	Wildlife Management Areas

TOTAL		DESCRIPTION
6	Public Assistance	

REGION 6: OPELOUSAS

PARISHES: IBERIA, IBERVILLE, PT.COUPEE, LAFAYETTE, ST. LANDRY, ST. MARTIN, W.B.R.

	W.B.R.
TOTAL CASES	213
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
35	Boating
17	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA
96	Angling W/O License
1	Hunt W/O Resident License
3	Fish W/O Resident Pole License
4	Take Or Sell Commercial Fish W/O Commercial License
5	Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
4	Hunt W/O Unplugged Gun
8	Angling W/O Non-Resident License
1	Gross Littering
2	Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealers License
10	Intentional Littering
3	Violate Recreational Gear License Requirements
6	Illegal Possession Of Drugs Or Marijuana
1	Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia
3	Fail To Maintain Records

1	Possess Over Limit Of Coots	
1	Wanton Waste Of MGB	
1	Taking Robins – No Season	
1	Injuring Public Records	
1	Filing False Public Records	· -
1	Fail To Have Commercial License	· -
4	Take Illegal Size Black Bass	
2	Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Retail Seafood License	
2	Felony Theft	-

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 60

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
12	Boating
16	Angling W/O License
19	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA
12	Use WMA W/O License Or Stamp
1	Take Illegal Size Black Bass

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION

10 Black Bass, 1 Motor, 1 Boat, 3 Bags Of Green, Leafy Vegetable-Like Substance, 4 Robins, 1 Clear Tackle Box Containing Green, Leafy-Vegetable-Like Substance, 1 Glass Pipe, 6 ½ Sacks of Crawfish, 5 Rod And Reels, 1 Partially Burned Hand Rolled Green, Vegetation Cigarette, 249 Lbs. Shad, Check For \$44.82, Trip Tickets, 16 Coots

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 6:

DESCRIPTION
Boating
Commercial Fishing
Federal Migratory
Littering
Miscellaneous
Recreational Fishing
State Hunting/Trapping
Written Warnings

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION	
12	Public Assistance	
12	Public Assistance	

REGION 7: BATON ROUGE

PARISHES: ASCENSION, E.B. ROUGE,

E. FELICIANA, LIVINGSTON ST. HELENA, ST. TAMMANY, TANGIPAHOA, WASHINGTON,

W. FELICIANA

TOTAL CASES	168
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
51	Boating
39	Angling Without Basic Resident License
5	Angling Without Non-Resident License
1	Angling Without Saltwater License
2	Take Game Fish Illegally
1	Take Over The Limit Of Game Fish
1	Failure To Tag Nets
1	Sell/Buy Fish Without Retail Seafood License
1	Obtain License Fraudulently
2	Hunt Without Resident License
9	Hunt Without Non-Resident License
2	Hunt With Unplugged Gun
6	Hunt From A Moving Vehicle
2	Hunt From A Public Road
4	Hunt Deer From A Public Road

4	Hunt Deer Closed Season
7	Hunt Turkeys Over Bait
2	Possession Of Illegally Taken Turkey
1	Hunt Without Turkey License
1	Hunt Without Big Game License
9	Violate Rules And Regulations Of WMA
2	Hunt On WMA Without Permit
14	Littering
1	Other Than Wildlife

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 5

TOTAL	DE	SCRIPTION OF CITATION
2	Boating	
3	Angling	

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION		
2—Cast Nets		
1—License		
	2—Cast Nets	

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 7:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION	
51	Boating	,)
2	Commercial Fishing	
-0-	Federal Migratory	·
14	Littering	
1	Miscellaneous	
49	Recreational Fishing	
51	State Hunting/Trapping	
5	Written Warnings	

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION	
	Public Assistance 3—Assist Boaters 9—Assist Motorists	

REGION 8: NEW ORLEANS

PARISHES: PLAQUEMINES, ST. BERNARD, ORLEANS, JEFFERSON, ST. CHARLES

177
DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
Boating
Angling W/O A License
Angling W/O A License Non-Resident
Angling W/O Saltwater License
Angling W/O Saltwater License Non-Resident
Take/Poss. O/L Red Drum (On Water)
Take or Poss. Undersized Red Drum(Recreational) 16" Minimum
Take or Poss. Undersized Black Drum(Recreational)
Take or Poss. Undersized Black Drum(Recreational)
Commission Rules And Regulations (Misc.) Snapper(Recreational)
Not Abiding By Commission Rules And Regulations Comm. Fin Fish
Take Or Sell Commercial Fish W/O Comm. License
Take Commercial Fish W/O Comm. Gear License
Take Or Poss. Commercial Fish W/O Vessel License
Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License
Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O A Retail Seafood Dealers License

1	Fail To File Trip Tickets
2	Possess Exotic Fish Illegally (Snakehead)
2	Use Saltwater Net Illegally
1	Fail To Comply With Federal Law In EEZ
3	Theft Of Crab Trap
2	Use Skimmers In Closed Season
2	Violate Shrimp Fee Regulation
1	Failure To Have Written Permission
4	Unlawfully Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms
2	Unlawfully Take Oysters Off A Private Lease
2	Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel
3	Violate Sanitation Code (Log Book)
1	Possess Wild Quadrupeds W/O A License
1	Possess Live Wild Quadrupeds W/O Permit
1	Hunt Wild Quadrupeds And/Or Wild Birds Illegal Hours
1	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations
1	Illegal Poss. Of Alligators, Eggs Or Their Skins
3	Possession Of Live Alligators W/O Permit
1	Possessing F.B.A. W/O License
1	Take Non-Game Quadrupeds Illegally

Intentional Littering	
Littering	
Operating A Vessel While Intoxicated	<u> </u>
Conspiracy (Federal)	
Lacey Act	
Miscellaneous Federal Violations	
	Littering Operating A Vessel While Intoxicated Conspiracy (Federal) Lacey Act

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 25

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
13	Boating
7	Angling W/O A License
3	Take Or Poss. Undersized Red Drum (Recreational)
1	Take Or Poss. Undersized Spotted Sea Trout (Recreational)
1	Take Or Poss. O/L Black Drum (Recreational)

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION

Returned To Water....Oyster Sacks(243)....Shucked Oysters(400 lbs.)....Crabs(250 lbs. Donated....Black Drum(7)....Red Drum(22)...Speckled Trout(18)...Mangrove Snapper(5)...Silk Snapper(6)....Alligator(2)....Alligator Head(1)....Raccoon(1) Sold @ Bid....Shark(4,458 Lbs.) and Shark Fins (192 Lbs.) Sold For \$4,279.00 Hardware Confiscated.....Rod And Reels(13)....Skimmer Nets(2)....Crab Traps(3) Boat(1)....Motor(1)....Gill Net(1,200 Ft.)

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 8:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
34	Boating
60	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
4	Littering
10	Miscellaneous
61	Recreational Fishing
8	State Hunting/Trapping
25	Written Warnings

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
4	Public Assistance

REGION 9: SCHRIEVER

PARISHES: ASSUMPTION, ST. JAMES,

ST. JOHN, ST. MARY,

TERREBONNE, LAFOURCHE, JEFFERSON-GRAND ISLE,

LOWER ST. MARTIN

TOTAL CASES	167
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
54	Boating
43	Angling Without A Resident License
5	Angling Without A Non-Resident License
1	Violate Recreational Gear License Requirement
3	Angling Without Resident Saltwater License
2	Angling Without Non-Resident Saltwater License
1	Take Over Limit Crawfish Recreational
2	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
1	Take Undersized Red Drum Recreational
2	Take Undersized Spotted Sea Trout Recreational
2	Take Undersized Black Drum Recreational
2	Take Over Limit Black Drum Recreational
1	Commission Rules And Regulations Take Grouper Closed Season
2	Take Commercial Fish Without Commercial License
1	Take Commercial Fish Without Commercial Hoop Net Gear License

Take Commercial Fish Without Vessel License
Fail To Have Commercial Fish Intact (Warsaw And Barrel Grouper)
Take Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License
Failure to Have Written Permission
Unlawfully Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms
Take Oysters From Unapproved Area (Polluted)
Violate Sanitary Code (Log Book)
Hunt From Moving Vehicle
Hunt Wild Quadrupeds Illegal Hours
Hunt Deer Closed Area
Hunt Deer Illegally From A Boat
Hunt Raccoons Illegally
Possession Of Alcohol By Persons Under 21 Years Of Age
Illegal Possession Of Drugs

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 72

DESCRIPTION OF CITATION	
Boating	
Angling Without A Basic Fishing License	
Violate Recreational Gear License Requirement	
	Boating Angling Without A Basic Fishing License

10	Angling Without A Resident Saltwater License
2	Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION

4 Rabbits; 1 Raccoon; 18 Black Drum; 4 Speckled Trout; 7 Sacks Crawfish; 3 Catfish; 5 Black Bass; 204 Sacks Oysters; 3 Red Drum; 5 Bags Filleted Fish; 735 Lbs. Saltwater Fin Fish; 215 Lbs. Gag Grouper; 3 Rods And Reels; 4 Boats And Motors (Paper Seizures); 5 Oyster Dredges; 1 Q-Beam Light; 2 Commercial Licenses; 14 Oyster Tags; 1 Oyster Harvester Log Book; 12 Cans Beer; 1 Container Marijuana And Joint; 6 Guns; Various Bullets And Buckshot

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 9:

DESCRIPTION
Boating
Commercial Fishing
Federal Migratory
Littering
Miscellaneous
Recreational Fishing
State Hunting/Trapping
Written Warnings

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
4	Public Assistance

OYSTER STRIKE FORCE

COASTAL WATERS

28
DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
Unlawfully Take Oysters From A Private Lease
Taking Oysters From An Unapproved Area
Unlawfully Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms
Failure To Have Written Permission
Take/Possess Oysters Without An Oyster Harvester License
Take/Possess Commercial Fish Without A Commercial License
Fail To Comply With PFD Requirements
Violate Sanitary Code (Log Book)

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 3

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
2	Fail To Display Proper Number On Vessel
1	Angling Without A Basic License

CONFISCATIONS:

	CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION	
196 Sacks Of Oysters		
	•	

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR OSF:

DESCRIPTION
Boating
Commercial Fishing
Federal Migratory
Littering
Miscellaneous
Recreational Fishing
State Hunting/Trapping
Written Warnings

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

STATEWIDE

TOTAL CASES	9
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Commission Rules And Regulations (No Vessel License)
1	Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without Vessel License
1	Fail To Maintain Records
1	Fail To Have Commercial Fish Intact
1	Expired Boat Registration Certificate
1	Fail To Comply With PFD Requirements
1	Operate Unregistered Motorboat
1	Angling Without A License Non-Resident
1	Federal Lacey Act

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 0

WIGHTEN WINGSTON	
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
0	
)	

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION

735 Pounds of Assorted Federal Fish (Donated); 36.5 Pounds Of Saltwater Fish Fillets (Held @ BRHQ As Evidence); 30 Pounds Lane Snapper(Donated); 20 Pounds Live Blue Crabs(Donated); 11 Pounds Shell Stock Oysters(Destroyed); 1-5'5" Spincast Rod And Reel (Held @ BRHQ As Evidence)

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR SIU:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
3	Boating
5	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
0	Miscellaneous
1	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
0	Written Warnings
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Wilten wathings

DESCRIPTION	<u> </u>
Public Assistance	<u> </u>

S.W.E.P.

COASTAL WATERS

TOTAL CASES	23					
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION					
1	Take Commercial Fish W/O Vessel License					
1	Take Commercial Fish W/O Gear License					
2	Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial License					
2	Illegal Possession Of Saltwater Gill Net					
1	Take Oysters W/O Oyster Harvester License					
4	Take Oysters From Unapproved Area (Polluted Area)					
2	Take Oysters From Unleased State Water Bottom					
2	Take Oysters From Private Lease					
1	Fail To Have Written Permission					
4	Violate Health Code (No Log Book)					
2	Boating					
1	Fail To Have Federal Shrimp Permit					

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 1

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION				
<u> </u>					
1 .	Angle W/O License				
	•				

	CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
₽	s-Returned To Water; 250 Lbs. Of Blue Crabs-Returned To Water; -17 Ft. Flat Boat W/200 Hp. Yamaha Motor

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR SWEP:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION		
2	Boating		
20	Commercial Fishing		
0	Federal Migratory		
0	Littering		
0	Miscellaneous		
1	Recreational Fishing		
0	State Hunting/Trapping		
1	Written Warnings		

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 0

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

**Note:

54 Hours Ran

158 Boats Checked

REFUGE PATROL

MARSH ISLAND, ROCKEFELLER, STATE WILDLIFE

TOTAL CASE	S 11				
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION				
3	Angling Without A License				
1	Theft Of Pond Raised Crawfish				
1	Expired Boat Registration Certificate				
1	Reckless Operation Of Watercraft				
1	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA				
1	Operating A Vessel While Intoxicated				
1	Vehicular Homicide				
1	Vehicular Negligent Injuring Two Counts				
1	Criminal Trespass On Crawfish Ponds				
WRITTEN WA	ARNINGS: 1				
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION				
1	Improper Or No Fire Extinguisher				
CONFISCATION	ONS:				
	CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION				
None					

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REFUGE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
5	Boating
0	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
2	Miscellaneous
3	Recreational Fishing
1	WMA And Refuges
1	Written Warnings
1	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 2

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION			
2	Public Assistance			

TOTAL CASES:	1,126	
WRITTEN WARNINGS:	219	
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:	65	

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ENFORCEMENT AVIATION REPORT MARCH 2005

185 – Amph. – 61092 Hrs 0		185 – Amph. – 1322R Hrs 41	210 – 9467Y Hrs 11.6
Enforcement Hours -	27.1		
Wildlife Hours-	14.4		-
Marine Fish Hours-	6.5		
Inland Fish Hours-	4.6		
Fur & Refuge Hours-	0		
Total Plane Use -	52.1		•

MONTHLY BOATING ACCIDENT REPORT

MARCH 2005

Number of Boating Accidents Reported: 11

Number of Injuries: 5

Number of Fatalities: 5

3/5/05 - Orleans Parish

Small boat hit a wave in Bayou Bienvinue, ejecting a passenger. Passenger was unable to swim to safety and died from drowning.

3/7/05 – St. Mary Parish

Unoccupied fishing vessel found in Wax Lake Outlet with indications that the operator had fallen out. Body recovered in Gulf of Mexico on 3/29/05.

3/12/05 - Concordia Parish

Two vessel collision in Cross Bayou injured two passengers in one of the vessels.

3/14/05 – Jeff Davis Parish

Boater was reported overdue from a solo fishing trip. Vessel was located with indications that the operator had fallen overboard. A search of the area began and the operator's body was recovered a short while later near the accident site.

3/19/05 - Red River Parish

Two boat collision in Grand Bayou with property damage only.

3/21/05 - Concordia Parish

Boat capsized after being driven over a weir. Property damage only.

3/22/05 - Cameron Parish

Operator and passenger ejected from a boat in a sharp turn. Boat circled around and struck passenger, who sustained multiple breaks and lacerations from being struck by the propeller.

3/25/05 – Vermillion Parish

Two boat collision on Boston Canal that killed one passenger and severely injured two others. Driver of vessel with casualties was arrested and charged with DWI, Vehicular Homicide and Vehicular Negligent Injury (2 counts).

3/26/05 - West Baton Rouge Parish

Two vessel collision in Intercoastal Canal. Property damage only.

3/27/05 - Lafourche Parish

After receiving a report of an overdue boater we located his vehicle and trailer at a boat launch. Subsequent search by water and air revealed nothing until his body was recovered in Havoline Canal on 3/31/05.

3/30/05 - St. Martin Parish

Vessel sunk after passengers shifted position. No injuries.

Notice: This report only represents accidents reported to and investigated by the Enforcement Division. Some or all of these accidents are still under investigation and cause or fault may or may not have been determined. Information provided is for informational purposes only. For more information contact Lt. Colonel Brian Spillman, Boating Law Administrator at 225-765-2987.

From:

Gresham, Thomas

Sent:

Tuesday, April 05, 2005 2:51 PM

To:

Burke, Marianne

Subject:

LDWF Region 9 Enforcement News (April 5, 2005)

NEWS FROM THE LA. DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

The Public Information Section of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is responsible for the distribution of LDWF news releases and the department's biweekly newsletter.

If you have questions, please contact:

Thomas Gresham

News and Media Relations Manager (tgresham@wlf.louisiana.gov)

2005-092

TEN CITED FOR OYSTERING IN POLLUTED WATERS

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents cited 10 oyster fishermen on March 23 for allegedly taking oysters from an unapproved area.

Ashton John Dehart, 29, Jason John Liner, 20, and Byron J. Liner Jr., 28, from Houma and Chance Lovell, 26, from Theriot were seen dredging for oysters in the northern part of Oyster Bayou in West Terrebonne Parish. The four men were cited for taking oysters from an unapproved area. The Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) Oyster Water Monitoring Program has closed this area of Oyster Bayou under because of high levels of fecal coliform bacteria. Four times per year, DHH issues maps that designate open oyster waters and areas closed due to high bacteria counts.

Agents seized 80 sacks of oysters and returned them to the water. Two oyster dredges and the boat were placed under a seizure order.

In a separate location closed to oyster harvest, six men were found dredging oysters in a marsh area between Oyster Bayou and Bay Junop. Edgar Saucedo Aviles, 46, Omar Ever Aviles, 27, Matilde Aviles, 20, and Miguel Torres-Cuevas, 31, all from Houma, Gustavo Flores Aviles, 31 of Raleigh, North Carolina, and Felix R. Cortez, 50, of Bayou Blue were cited for taking oysters from an unapproved area.

Agents seized 88 sacks of oysters and returned them to the water. Two oyster dredges and the vessels were placed under seizure order.

If convicted, each one of the 10 faces penalties of up to \$700 in fines, up to six months jail, or both plus court costs.

LDWF Enforcement Division Sergeant Bryan Marie and Senior Agent Dave Nunez of the Enforcement Division's Oyster Strike Force cited the alleged violators.

EDITORS: For more information, contact Lieutenant Colonel Keith LaCaze at 225/765-2469 or klacaze@wlf.louisiana.gov.

2005-093

OYSTER THIEVES CAUGHT IN TERREBONNE PARISH

On April 2, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents cited two men for alleged oyster violations in Terrebonne Parish.

While on oyster-growing-area patrol in Hackberry Bay, located in lower Terrebonne Parish, members of LDWF Enforcement Division's Oyster Strike Force found the two men dredging oysters from a private lease without permission from the owner. The men were identified as Daniel Vergara Cabrera, 47, from Houma and Pascuan Garcia, 22, from Montegut.

The men were cited for unlawfully taking oysters from a private lease. In addition, Cabrera was cited for failure to have written permission. Agents seized six sacks of oysters in connection with the violation and placed the boat and dredge under LDWF seizure order.

The penalty for unlawfully taking oysters from a private lease is a fine of \$900 to \$950, imprisonment for not more than 120 days, or both, plus court costs and forfeiture of anything seized in connection with the violation.

Failure to have written permission is punishable by a fine of \$400 to \$750, jail for not more than 120 days, or both, plus court costs.

Agents participating in case were Sgt. Bryan Marie and Senior Agent Dave Nunez.

From:

Gresham, Thomas

Sent:

Tuesday, April 05, 2005 2:49 PM

To:

Burke, Marianne

Subject:

LDWF Region 7 Enforcement News (April 5, 2005)

NEWS FROM THE LA. DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

The Public Information Section of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is responsible for the distribution of LDWF news releases and the department's biweekly newsletter.

If you have questions, please contact:

Thomas Gresham

News and Media Relations Manager (tgresham@wlf.louisiana.gov)

2005-096

TURKEY HUNTERS FOUND USING BAIT IN ST. HELENA PARISH

On March 25, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents cited Trampus W. Purvis, 28, of Albany, Wayne J. Guidry, 56, of La Place and Robert A. Rodrigue, 59, of Metairie, for allegedly illegally hunting turkeys over bait in St. Helena Parish.

The penalty for hunting turkeys over bait is a fine no less than \$250 and no more than \$500 or jail not more than 90 days or both plus court costs.

Agents participating in the cases were Agent Ezekiel Talbert, Senior Agents Benji Morgan and Toby Miller, and Sergeants Grady Brecheen and Dane Thomas.

From:

Gresham, Thomas

Sent:

Tuesday, April 05, 2005 2:49 PM

To:

Burke, Marianne

Subject:

LDWF Region 6 Enforcement News (April 5, 2005)

NEWS FROM THE LA. DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

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Thomas Gresham

News and Media Relations Manager (tgresham@wlf.louisiana.gov)

2005-098

FIVE CITED FOR CLOSED SEASON FROGGING

Agents from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division cited five men for allegedly frogging during closed season in St. Martin Parish during the first weekend of April.

Michael Keller, 43, and Robert Martin, 19, of St. James were cited after enforcement agents allegedly witnessed the two frogging in the Atchafalaya Basin the night of April 1. At the time of the stop, agents found the two men in possession of two live frogs.

On April 2, agents witnessed Daniel Gros, 52, Melvin Hymel, 49, and Robert Hymel, 64, of Morgan City allegedly catching frogs in the Bayou Sorrel area. When the agents stopped the men they found eight frogs.

All five suspects were cited for frogging during closed season, and the frogs were seized and released to the wild. Frog season is closed during April and May.

The penalty for taking frogs in closed season is a fine of \$250 to \$500, or jail for not more than 90 days, or both plus court costs.

Agents involved in these cases were Sergeants Robert Daigle and Ross Mire, and Senior Agent Winston Michel.

EDITORS: For more information contact Lieutenant Colonel Keith LaCaze at 225-756-2469 or klacaze@wlf.louisiana.gov.

From:

Gresham, Thomas

Sent:

Tuesday, April 05, 2005 2:49 PM

To:

Burke, Marianne

Subject:

LDWF Region 5 Enforcement News (April 5, 2005)

NEWS FROM THE LA. DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

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If you have questions, please contact:

Thomas Gresham

News and Media Relations Manager (tgresham@wlf.louisiana.gov)

2005-094

FOUR CLUB MEMBERS CITED FOR L.A.D.T. VIOLATIONS

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents cited four men for allegedly violating commission rules and regulations by failing to tag antierless deer on a Louisiana Antierless Deer Tag (LADT) program hunting lease in Beauregard Parish.

David P. Forrest, 51, and Martin E. Thompson, 60, of Moss Bluff, and John W. Morris, 52, and Jimmy H. Jones, 69, of Lake Charles were cited for failing to tag antierless deer during the 2004-2005 deer hunting season on the Right Hand Creek Hunting Club in Beauregard Parish.

During a review of LADT records for local hunting clubs after the hunting season, LDWF personnel discovered information, which led to an investigation of the Right Hand Creek Hunting Club members. As participants in the LADT program, they were required to properly tag all antierless deer taken. The data submitted by the hunting club for the 2004-2005 deer season revealed that four antierless deer were not tagged. Agents interviewed the four persons who harvested the deer and several other club members and issued citations for failure to tag antierless deer as a result of the investigation.

The penalty for not abiding by Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission rules and regulations by failing to tag antierless deer on LADT properties is a fine of up to \$350, or up to 60 days in jail, or both, plus court costs.

Agents participating in the investigation were Lieutenant Jesse Savoie, Sergeant David Liles, and Agent Wendel Vaughn.

EDITORS: For more information, contact Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze at 225/765-2469 (klacaze@wlf.louisiana.gov)

From:

Gresham, Thomas

Sent:

Tuesday, April 05, 2005 2:48 PM

To:

Burke, Marianne

Subject:

LDWF Region 4 Enforcement News (April 5, 2005)

NEWS FROM THE LA. DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

The Public Information Section of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is responsible for the distribution of LDWF news releases and the department's biweekly newsletter.

If you have questions, please contact:

Thomas Gresham

News and Media Relations Manager (tgresham@wlf.louisiana.gov)

2005-097

WILDLIFE AGENTS RESCUE FISHERMEN ON DEWEY WILLS WMA

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents rescued four people from a sinking boat on March 12, on Saline Lake, in Dewey W. Wills Wildlife Management Area.

Barry Price and Kasey Sanson, both of Deville, were fishing with their sons, ages nine and six, and had anchored their boat from the stern. The men were unaware that two to four foot waves were filling their boat with water. Around 11 a.m., Senior Agent Kevin Hill was on patrol when he saw the fishermen's boat was taking on water over the stern. Hill quickly made contact with the men to warn them, but their boat was already starting to sink. Hill took immediate action by placing both boys and their fathers in the safety of his boat, and contacted Sergeant Brian McDowell, also on patrol in the WMA. The wildlife agents brought all four fishermen safely to shore, then retrieved their property that had floated out of the sinking boat, and finally recovered the boat for the fishermen.

From:

Gresham, Thomas

Sent:

Tuesday, April 05, 2005 2:48 PM

To:

Burke, Marianne

Subject:

LDWF Region 1 Enforcement News (April 5, 2005)

NEWS FROM THE LA. DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

The Public Information Section of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is responsible for the distribution of LDWF news releases and the department's biweekly newsletter.

If you have questions, please contact:

Thomas Gresham

News and Media Relations Manager (tgresham@wlf.louisiana.gov)

2005-095

RED RIVER PARISH MAN KILLS OUT-OF-SEASON ALLIGATOR

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents cited Stephen Giddens, 32, of Coushatta on March 26 for allegedly killing an alligator out of season and without a license.

Upon inspecting The Skinnin' Shed, a deer processing plant located in Hall Summit, Red River Parish, agents found an untagged alligator tail. Giddens, the owner's son, admitted to killing the alligator with a rifle on March 13 in a private lake in the northern portion of Red River Parish. After further investigations, the agents determined that Christopher Wood, 33, and Kevin Shrell, 46, of Ringgold had assisted Giddens in the retrieval of the alligator, which was nearly 12 feet in length.

Giddens was cited for taking alligator without a license and taking an alligator in closed season.

The penalty for taking an alligator without a license is a fine of \$250 to \$500, or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both plus court costs. Taking an alligator when the season is closed carries a fine not less than \$400 or more than \$750, or imprisonment for not more than 120 days, or both plus court costs.

The rifle was seized and Giddens was issued a civil restitution citation for the value of the 11-foot-4-inch alligator to be paid to LDWF.

Shrell and Wood were each cited for illegal possession of the alligator. Illegal possession of an alligator is punishable by a fine of not less than \$400 or more than \$750, or imprisonment for not more than 120 days, or both plus court costs.

Wildlife enforcement agents participating in the investigation are Lieutenant Richie McCarthy, Sergeants Chuck Dison and Patrick Staggs, Senior Agent Toby Meyers and Agent John Blalock.

2005-099

SALINE MAN CITED FOR TURKEY VIOLATIONS

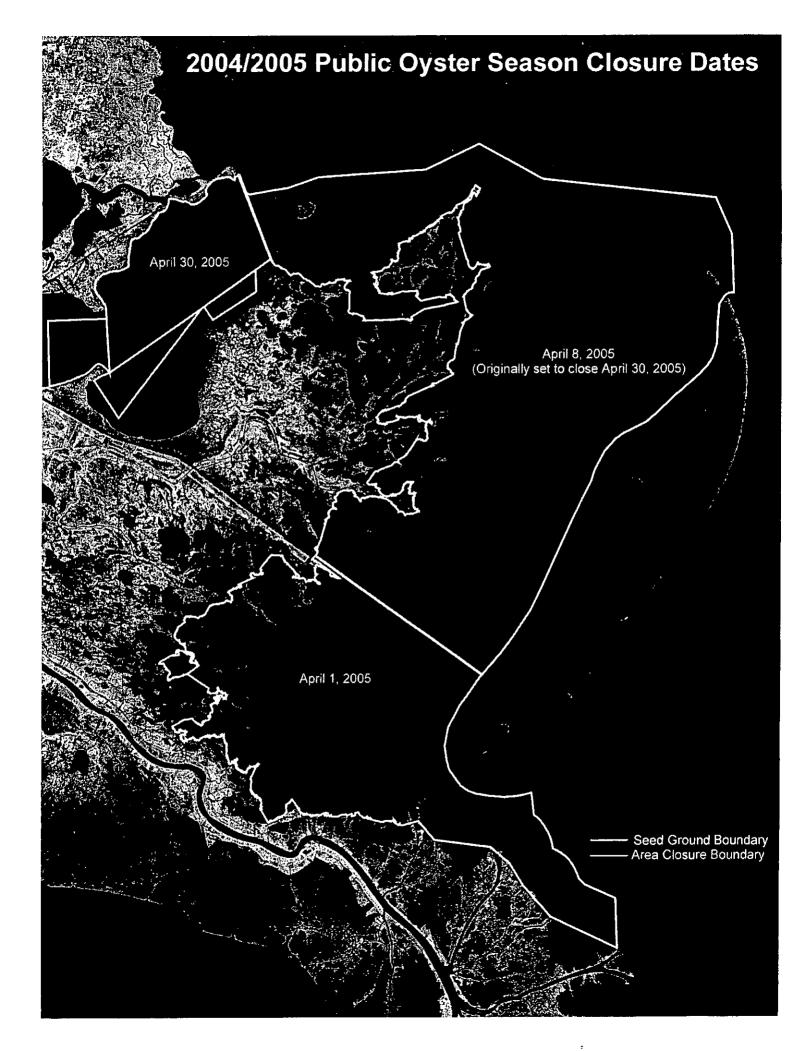
On March 26, agents from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division cited Larry D. Hood, 50, of Saline for allegedly hunting without a resident hunting license, hunting turkey without required big game and turkey license and hunting turkey over a baited area.

Hood was hunting turkey in a wooded area near the town of Saline. The area was baited with corn and chicken feed. Hood fled when approached by LDWF Enforcement Division Sergeant Patrick Staggs but was captured before he could escape the area.

In Louisiana, it is unlawful to hunt turkeys over an area where corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed has been directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, or scattered so as to constitute a lure, attraction or enticement to turkey.

Hunting without a resident hunting License, without big game license and without a turkey license are each punishable by a \$50 fine. Hunting turkeys over baited carries a fine of not less than \$250 or more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than 90 days or both, plus court costs.

Agents participating in the case in addition to Sergeants Patrick Staggs and Chuck Dison, Agent John Blalock and Senior Agent Toby Meyers.





KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Office of Fisheries

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU SECRETARY

JOHN E. ROUSSEL ASSISTANT SECRETARY

April 4, 2005

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission P.O. Box 98000 Baton Rouge, LA 70898

Dear Chairman Segrera and Commission:

I am in receipt of the recent letter from the United Commercial Fisherman's Association (UCFA) requesting the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to extend the 2004/2005 oyster season in Black Bay. The UCFA letter outlines six reasons for the request. The Department recommends that the 2004/2005 oyster season in Black Bay not be extended and respectfully responds to each of the six UCFA reasons:

- 1. Oyster stock size decreased for the fourth consecutive year and was at its lowest level since 1991. For this reason, we recommended a later opening of October 1, 2004 and a closure as per state statute of April 1, 2005. In addition, nearly 268,000 barrels of market-sized oysters have been harvested through March 2005 which represents 72.3% (largest percentage ever on record) of available market-sized oyster stocks in this area.
- 2. The Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) closed harvest areas 5, 6, and 7 (harvest areas that encompass the Black Bay area) for two days in relation to Hurricane Ivan and nine days in relation to Tropical Storm Matthew for a total of 11 storm-related days of mandated no-harvest.
- 3. Conditions have been windy this winter, but that is not unusual for the winter season. LDWF does not determine what conditions constitute "too windy to fish."
- 4. This is an industry issue and is not related to the overall health and size of the oyster population.
- 5. 2004 seed oyster stock size was lower than the stock size in 2003. It is estimated that 168,973 barrels of seed oysters have been harvested this season (through February) from the Black Bay area which represents roughly 23% of the available seed oyster resources. We have also received numerous reports that some fishermen are removing a large percentage of reef material along with seed oyster loads. This report has not been confirmed by LDWF biologists in the field.
- 6. Clean, hard substrate is a requirement for successful larval settlement. However, additional harvest may not only deplete already low oyster stocks, but also may place added stress on oysters that are preparing to spawn.

We continue to support the oyster industry by managing the public oyster resource to ensure the continued success of future oyster populations on the public oyster grounds. Part of successful fisheries management includes developing a seasonal framework so that harvest is allowed without placing the future of the oyster resource in jeopardy. We feel that based on the 2004 stock assessment and seasonal harvest estimates available at this time, an extension to the 2004/2005 oyster season in Black Bay would not be in the best interest of resource conservation.

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff at 225.765.2801.

Sincerely

John E. Roussel
Assistant Secretary

LDWF Office of Fisheries

pdb

c: Dwight Landreneau

Karen Foote Patrick Banks

Attachment



Make Your Voice Heard

UNITED COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION

1519 Judge Perez Drivn - Suite 6 - Chalmotte, LA 70043 Office; (054) 276-8232 - Fax: (504) 276-8008 George Barisich, President - Home; (504) 279-6915



Dear Commissioner Samanie.

I am contacting you at this time to inform you of a certain scenario that is transpiring at this time in the Louisiana Oyster Industry.

As you know the 2004-2005 oyster season will close in some areas on April 1, 2005 and remain open in other areas.

We respectfully request that you extend the Black Bay seed ground to run concurrent with the area north of the M.R.G.O. which will remain open until April 30, 2005 If this cannot be done, please consider reopening the Black Bay area at your April commission meeting. We request that you put this item on the agenda so it can be voted on.

We request this for the following reasons:

- (1). The 2004-2005 oyster season opened later than the usual September opening.
- (2). The oystermen already lost 3 weeks as a result of the numerous Hurricanes.
- (3). There has been an unusual high number of severe windy days this season limiting working time.
- (4). Up until recently the oyster yield in the Black Bay area was so poor most of the oystermen were forced to fish other areas, now the yield is high enough to make that area's oysters marketable once again.
- (5). Although there was considerable bedding activity throughout parts of the season the area has ample seed stock (covered with mussels) that can be moved.
- (6). Biologically, in hope of getting a good spat catch for next year the best thing to do would be to work that area now to clean those rects and kill as many mussels as possible. (I have never seen a good spat catch on top of mussels, but dead mussel shells make a beautiful oyster.)

U.C.F.A. has numerous oystermen in all the areas, many of whom suffered losses on their private lease from the Hurricanes, who are just looking to make a little day's work.

If you have any questions feel free to call me anytime.

Sincerely your, George Barisich President U.C.F.A. 504-439-2013 504-276-8232



SENATE STATE OF LOUISIANA

WALTER J. BOASSO

State Senator District (

100 Intermodal Drive Chalmette, Louisiana 70043 (504) 270-9258 Tall Free 1(866) 926-2776 Fax (504) 277-0113

COMMITTEES:

Retirement, Vice Chair Agriculture, Porestry. Aquaculture & Rural Development Transportation, Highways, and Public Works

April 6, 2005

Via Fax: 225-765-0948

Secretary Dwight Landreneau La. Department of Wildlife/Fisheries P.O. Box 98000 Baton Rouge, LA 70898

-and-

Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission Members:

Wayne Sagrera (Chairman)

Patrick Morrow

Terry Denmon (Vice-Chairman)

Henry Mouton

Earl King, Jr.

Robert Samanie III

Frederic Miller

Re: Request for Oyster grounds north of the MRGO to remain open until April 30

Dear Secretary Landreneau and LWF Commission members:

I am writing you to express my wholehearted support for re-opening the public seed grounds north the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet (MRGO) until April 30, 2005 (as previously agreed upon, as per Mr. George Barasich, President of the United Commercial Fishermen's Association),

Mr. Barasich's letter on the subject is enclosed, and I would certainly appreciate the Commission placing this item on its agenda for tomorrow's scheduled meeting, if it's not there already.

With best regards,

Walter J. Boasso

Dear Mr. Banks, (L.D.W.F. Oyster Division)

After polling the oyster members of U.C.F.A, an over whelming majority of the oystermen would like to see the public seed grounds north of the M.R.G.O. remain open until April 30, 2005 as previously agreed upon.

Furthermore, U.C.F.A. members specifically request that L.D.W.F. do whatever is necessary to let the Black Bay seed ground remain open also.

U.C.F.A. requests this for the following reasons:

- (1). The 2004-2005 oyster season opened later than the usual September opening.
- (2). The oystermen already lost 3 weeks as a result of the numerous Hurricanes.
- (3). There has been an unusual high number of severe windy days this season limiting working time.
- (4). Up until recently the oyster yield in the Black Bay area was so pour most of the oystermen were forced to fish other arrears, now the yield is high enough to make that area's oysters marketable once again.
- (5). Although there was considerable bedding activity throughout parts of the season the area has ample seed stock (covered with massels) that can be moved.
- (6). Biologically, in hope of getting a good spat catch for next year the best thing to do would be to work that area now to clean those reefs and kill as many mussels as possible. (I have never seen a good spat catch on top of mussels, but dead mussel shells makes a beautiful oyster.)

Thank you very much for your consideration in this matter. Please express our views and concerns to Sec. Landrieneau.

Sincerely Yours, George Barisich President U.C.F.A. 504-439-2013 504-276-8232

P.S. Looking forward to showing you the best place to put those cultch material.

2005 - 2006 Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, Barataria Preserve Hunting Season

(Proposed Dates)

Hunt permits issued: Saturday September 17th to Friday October 21st.

Deer - Archery Antlered: Saturday October 22nd to Sunday December 18th.

Saturday January 14th, 2006 to Sunday January 29th 2006

Deer - Archery Antlerless: Saturday October 22nd to Sunday November 20th.

Saturday December, 3rd to Sunday December 4th.

Deer - Shotgun Antlered: Saturday November 19th to Sunday December 18th.

Saturday January 14th, 2006 to Sunday January 29th 2006

Deer - Shotgun Antlerless: Saturday November 19th, to Sunday November 20th.

Saturday December 3rd, to Sunday December 4th.

Small game (squirrel, nutria Monday October 24th to Sunday December 18th.

Rabbit) Saturday January 14th, 2006 to Sunday January 29th 2006.

All stands must be removed by 5:00p.m. Sunday February 12th, 2006.

The Public Meeting for comments on the proposed hunting regulations for the 2005-2008 seasons for resident small game and deer held in 10 cities across the state: Bossier City, Ruston, Winnsboro, Alexandria, Lake Charles, Opelousas, Lafayette, Houma, Hammond and Baton Rouge from March 11 through March 24, 2005.

- 100 persons attended Bossier City
- 35 persons attended Ruston
- 40 persons attended Winnsboro
- 98 persons attended Alexandria
- 48 persons attended Lake Charles
- 58 persons attended Opelousas
- 37 persons attended Lafayette
- 43 persons attended Houma
- 18 persons attended Hammond
- 58 persons attended Baton Rouge
- 535 persons total attended

Most common comments received:

- 1. Too many either-sex days allowed. (10)
- 2. Opposed to hunting deer with dogs. (8)
- 3. Other comments related to the NOI were either local in nature and/or not very numerous (less than 5 per issue)
- Other comments were related to other Department issues such as enforcement of laws, fishing, trapping, waterfowl, turkey and others that are not related to the NOI. Most persons were in attendance to receive information or comment on the Departments proposed deer and turkey tagging regulations to be presented next year.

The Department recommends no changes to the NOI based on public comment received thus far.

Public Meetings 2005

<u>Date</u>	City	Location	<u>Time</u>
March 11 March 14 March 15 March 15 March 16 March 17 March 22 March 23	Lake Charles Ruston Houma Lafayette Bossier City Hammond Baton Rouge Opelousas Alexandria	LSU Agriculture Center Ruston Civic Center Houma Municipal Auditorium National Wetlands Research Center Bossier Civic Center SLU University Center LDWF HQ, La. Room Yambilee Center Alexandria Convention Hall	6:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 6:30 pm
March 24	Winnsboro	Council on Aging Bld.	7:00 pm

LA. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Wildlife Division—Region IV Public Hearing on Proposed Hunting Seasons & New Regulations

Council on Aging Building; Winnsboro, LA. 6:30 P.M., March 24, 2005

Approx. 40 people in attendance

- I. Introduction of LDWF Personnel
 - 5 Region IV Wildlife Division Personnel
 - 2 Region IV Enforcement Division Personnel
 - 2 Baton Rouge Wildlife Division Personnel
 - 1 Baton Rouge Enforcement Division Personnel
- II. Audio-Visual Presentation of Proposed Hunting Season Dates, Bag Limits, and New WMA Regulations
- III. Presentation of Tagging System Specifics
- IV. Question and Comment Period from Audience Members
 - 1. Lelon Kenney, Columbia, LA.- In favor of 3 buck limit, but giving everyone 3 doe tags would eliminate the deer herd. He was also wanted to make certain that WLF was not going to allow horses and mules in the woods at will with the proposed extra coon hunting. He also needed clarification that deer tags would free to under-age hunters, lifetime license holders, and seniors. Mr. Kenney also discussed enforcement commissions being restored to Wildlife Division personnel.
 - 2. Dennis Valentine, Winnsboro, LA.- In favor of a tagging system allowing 3 bucks and 3 Does with validation like HIP Certification. He would also like to see an antler restriction of 3 points on 1 side.
 - 3. Tonya Smith, Columbia, LA.- Clarified whether or not it was legal to crawfish in borrow ditches outside the waterfowl refuge boundary on Boeuf WMA.
 - 4. Carmon Butts, Jonesville, LA.- Wanted clarification that children under 16 would get free tags. He also questioned methods of validation for the tagging system.
 - 5. Terry Johnson, Gilbert, LA.- Against 3 Buck, 3 Doe limit because most clubs will not allow a person to kill 3 does. He was also against the area 1 and 2 boundary change due to losing dog hunting days on the front of the season.
 - 6. Terry Wiggins, Winnsboro, LA.- Believes hunter numbers will decline even more if a tagging system is imposed. He is in favor of an antler restriction statewide. Mr. Wiggins hunts in Jackson Parish.
 - 7. Billy Floyd, Harrisonburg, LA. Believes too many does are being killed and too many tags are being issued and the state's deer herd is being depleted. He is in favor of a 1 doe limit and an antler restriction statewide.
 - 8. Pam Ruddell, Columbia, LA.- In favor of a tagging system to limit taking of does, and as an enforcement tool. She believes better enforcement is needed and that Wildlife Division personnel need to have enforcement commissions restored.
 - 9. Robert Joe Clark, St. Joseph, LA.- Believes that does must be taken for a deer herd to be it's best. He is in favor of a 2-buck limit with mandatory validation.
 - 10. Louis May, Columbia, LA.- Concerned over the lack of parking at ATV trailheads since it will be no longer legal to ride on the roads to the trail. He also would like to see more handicapped trails overall, and he believes people should shoot a particular type of doe (maiden or fallow) instead of just harvesting does at will.

- 11. Roger Osborn, Sr., St. Joseph, LA.- Not in favor of having to tag deer on site, but believes tags must be validated. Recalled previous problems he has had with lack of enforcement and poaching on his land in Tensas Parish. Asked to talk with Enforcement Division after the hearing was over.
- 12. Carl Nugent, Columbia, LA.- In favor of tagging system with validation and believes we should eliminate doe days completely. He would like to be able to use a blood dog for deer on the WMA's and would like year round ATV access to all lakes on the southern end of Boeuf WMA.
- 13. Lanny Dark, Columbia, LA.- Against having to haul ATV's to trailheads. He would like to have year round access to all lakes on the south end of Bouef WMA and to be able to crawfish inside the waterfowl refuge.
- 14. Henry Beckley, Jr., Columbia, LA.- In favor of more Spring and Summer fishing access on Boeuf WMA.
- 15. Danny Nugent, Columbia, LA.- Decided not to speak.
- 16. Troy Hendry, Winnsboro, LA.- Would like more coon hunting opportunity on all state WMA's, possibly from the end of turkey season to October 1.
- 17. James Ruddell, Columbia, LA.- Believes the Boeuf WMA deer herd is being hurt when either sex hunting is allowed during times of high water.
- 18. Jerry Price, Monroe, LA.- Against area 1 & 2 boundary change due. Prefers to hunt during cool weather. He is in favor of a 2 buck 3 doe limit with tagging system.
- 19. Mike Giska, Wisner, LA.- Received clarification that hunters over 60 would not pay for tags and that regs pertaining to deer transport would remain the same. He is against tagging system and does not believe in killing does.
- 20. Lloyd Posey, Winnsboro, LA.- Thanked the dept. for proposed WMA regs on leaving stands in the woods and retrieving deer with ATV's. He would like to see more dove fields on state WMA's and believes we should triple the amount of alligator tags that we issue to hunters. He favors the tagging system with validation and believes that we should have a buck limit instead of an antler restriction.
- 21. Jimmy Hendrix, no address given- Against Area 1 & 2 line change and wanted information on how it could be changed.

The Public Meeting for comments on the proposed hunting regulations for the 2005-2008 seasons for resident small game and deer held in Alexandria on March 23, 2005.

58 persons attended

- 1. Favors 3 year seasons
- 2. Requests more raccoon hunting opportunities on WMAs
- 3. Against 2 deer limit on WMAs, favors more youth hunting opportunities
- 4. Requests reduces bag limit on quail and requests that still hunting and dog hunting opportunities be equal on private and public lands.
- 5. Requests that Kisatchie seasons be the same as private lands
- 6. Requests more either-sex days on Kisatchie, but less on WMAs
- 7. Requests that all WMAs open earlier
- 8. Opposes Dec. either-sex days due to low deer numbers
- 9. Wants more either-sex days on Kistachie for dog hunters
- 10. Too many either-sex days on WMAs
- 11. Not enough either-sex days
- 12. Requests that all deer Areas have uniform opening Statewide

The Public Meeting for comments on the proposed hunting regulations for the 2005-2008 seasons for resident small game and deer held in Opelousas on March 22, 2005.

58 persons attended

Comments:

- 1. Requests muzzleloader season on Jackson Bienville
- 2. Requests more youth hunts and handicapped hunts
- 3. Requests that stands be allowed to be carried onto WMA the day before season opens
- 4. Requests more youth hunts

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Batankaye

Public Hearing on Proposed Hunting Season Regulations Baton Rouge – 17 March 2005

The Public Hearing for comments on the proposed hunting regulations for the 2005-06 season was held in Baton Rouge on March 17, 2005.

31 citizens attended the meeting.

Survey Results-19 responses

Parish that you do most of your hunting in? Ascension 2, East Feliciana 1, Iberville 4, Pointe Coupee 5, West Baton Rouge 2, West Feliciana 5, Winn 2,

- 1) Do you support deer and turkey tagging? Yes 17 No 2
- 2) Do you support a three buck limit? Yes 12 No 5
- 2a) If not, what do you think the buck limit should be? 2-6, 6-1, 3 bucks and 1 doe -1
- 3) Do you support validation and reporting of harvested deer and turkeys? Yes 15 No 2
- 3a) Which of the following validation and reporting programs would you prefer? Harvest validation and reporting immediately after kill: Within 24 hours 6 Within 72 hours 4? Harvest validation and reporting at end of season? 7 No harvest validation or reporting, let LDWF survey hunters after the deer season? 2
- 4) What is the best way to pay for tagging? Let LDWF pay all costs 2 Charge all hunters a fee 10 Develop a bonus tag program to pay for tagging costs 7

Comments:

- Dept. should use tagging program not only for enforcement purposes, but to also acquire data from various regions. If a tagging system cannot be implemented for 2005-06 season, 6 pt. Rule should remain in effect for Tri-Parish Area. That's what a vast majority of hunters want.
- 2) Lifetime license, I have paid.
- 3) Please, no increase in fees. LA legislature should allocate more of tax money received from gas tax that all outdoorsman and women spend during their trip hunting, fishing, camping etc.
- 4) 3 bucks, 1 doe
- 5) I think 3 doe tags per license is entirely too much. 3 Bucks and 1 doe should be enough for any hunter.

Public Comments:

1. Larry Robicheaux Hunts Area 6

Likes 3 year season proposal

Likes tagging Likes 3 buck/3 doe

Strongly supports the additional bonus tags

2. Dwayne Coulia -Hunts Area 6, WBR

Likes tagging

Concern: Last year the Dept said 2 buck would improve buck quality, but 3 would not. Now we propose 3 buck. What about Lifetime License holders? Make it easy on them.

Feels if everyone has doe tags, will overkill some areas.

3. Gerald Boudreaux -West Feliciana

Likes tagging proposal

Thinks the restricted buck should be 8 pt. Or better. Concerned 3 doe tags will overkill some areas. Favors the 24 hr. Call-in validation option.

Funding - Do what it takes.

4. Howard Bertholet -Area 6, Iberville

Strongly approves of tagging, but thinks it is too liberal.

Limit to 2 doe tags

Limit to 1 buck of choice, then 1 buck 6 pt. Or better

Funding - pay what is necessary

Disagreed with the timing of the Youth Muzzleloader hunt last

year, but was pleased it was fixed this year.

5 Roland Dugas -Area 6/BR

Asked what the average buck kill across the State was?

D. Moreland, "50% kill nothing, 25% kill 1"

Likes tagging proposal Limit to 2 bucks

Would like the Area 6 archery to extend to Feb. 15. Said buck did

not go into rut until late January, early February.

6. Kelly Thibodeauz -West Feliciana

Felt Area 1 archery season opens too soon. Late rut, concerned

with orphaned fawns.

Would like the archery season to extend into February.

7. Mike Derion-Pt. Coupee, but hunts in Winn Parish

Likes tagging system
Limit to 2 buck and 2 doe

8. Chris Bagh

-Iberville/St. John

Would like archery to run through Feb. 15

(Joe Macalusa noted that all ATV manufacturers recommend only 1 person per ATV. He wonders if the Dept. is creating a liability problem if it permits a 59+ or Handicap to carry a helper to retrieve a downed deer.)

The Public Hearing for comments on the proposed hunting regulations for the 2005-06 season was held in Hammond on March 16, 2005.

18 citizens attended the meeting.

Survey Results-14 responses

1)	Do you	support deer	and turkey to	agging? Yes	_9No_5	<u>-</u>
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2) Do you support a three buck limit? Yes 10 No 4

- 2a) If not, what do you think the buck limit should be? 3 or less-4, 4-2, 2-2
- 3) Do you support validation and reporting of harvested deer and turkeys? Yes 13 No
- 3a) Which of the following validation and reporting programs would you prefer? Harvest validation and reporting immediately after kill: Within 24 hours 6 Within 72 hours 5? Harvest validation and reporting at end of season? 2 No harvest validation or reporting, let LDWF survey hunters after the deer season?
- 4) What is the best way to pay for tagging? Let LDWF pay all costs 3 Charge all hunters a fee 6 Develop a bonus tag program to pay for tagging costs 6

Comments:

- 1)The buck limit should be 2 bucks of choice and a 3rd buck 8 points or better, charge a fee and develop a bonus tag system
- 2)Reduce the number of either sex days in Area 1, Eleven doe days are too many, Since the doe days have started in our area, there has been a big reduction of deer in this area to a point where there are only a few deer in the area being buck deer.
- 3)Been hunting deer in LA since 1975. I find the limit was always to liberal to me there is no reason to have 7 deer limit on WMA or other public land. Limit on WMA or other public land. Support bonus tags if we go to tags so landowners and lease holders can maintain their herds.

3 individuals made public comment:

- -One wanted the "refuges" to provide more rabbit dog hunting opportunities. He suggested the Dept. consider opening another dog segment in October.
- -One liked the additional squirrel dog days proposed on WMAs.

 He was not in favor of the tagging system, but likes the 6 deer limit with 3 bucks idea. He would like to see this implemented this year.

 He would like us to suggest to the Corp. of Engineers they prohibit hog baiting in the Bonnet Carrie area which prevents duck hunting.
- -One questions if the cost of the proposed tagging system is worth the information gathered. He would rather spend this money on other management.

 He questioned why the 62,000 acre Maurepas Swamp WMA had a much more limited either-sex season than the Joyce WMA. Dave Moreland explained, access to Joyce is horrible, cannot really get at it to hunt it very hard. Access to Maurepas Swamp is much better. Generally, our WMAs get much higher use on the few either-sex days provided than hunting clubs, therefore do not need as many either-sex days. Lastly, it was pointed out Maurepas Swamp is a relatively new area, the Dept. is still learning about how hard the public can hunt the area. Modifications will be made in the future as deemed necessary. The individual indicated he observed less deer the past few seasons (in Region 1) and wondered if we had set too many either-sex days. He thought the proposed 3 buck limit was plenty.

The Public Meeting for comments on the proposed hunting regulations for the 2005-2008 seasons for resident small game and deer held in Bossier City on March 15, 2005.

100 persons attended

- 1. Requests that hunting with dogs be ended in La.
- 2. Requests that duck hunting and deer hunting on Loggy Bayou not overlap
- 3. Says that deer season is too long but would like to increase the season limit for deer
- 4. Wants more youth hunts on WMAs
- 5. Too many either-sex days
- 6. Too many either-sex days
- 7. Too many either-sex days
- 8. Requests more raccoon hunting on WMAs
- 9. Requests muzzleloader season on Jackson Bienville and states that deer seasons opens too early in Area 2
- 10. Against be allowed to leave deer stands on WMAs
- 11. Requests that a special dog hunting only season be established
- 12. Wants to eliminate dog hunting for deer

The Public Meeting for comments on the proposed hunting regulations for the 2005-2008 seasons for resident small game and deer held in Lafayette on March 15, 2005.

43 persons attended

- 1. Requests Muzzleloader season on Jackson Bienville WMA
- 2. Against antler restriction on Thistlethwaite WMA
- 3. Wants to legalize crossbows for all hunters
- 4. Against dog hunting in Basin
- 5. Against dog hunting in Basin
- 6. Against dog hunting in Basin

The Public Meeting for comments on the proposed hunting regulations for the 2005-2008 seasons for resident small game and deer held in Houma on March 14, 2005.

43 persons attended

- 1. Prefers earlier season that Area 7 offers over Area 6.
- 2. Against the increased limits for either-sex deer on DMAP lands.

The Public Meeting for comments on the proposed hunting regulations for the 2005-2008 seasons for resident small game and deer held in Ruston on March 14, 2005.

35 persons attended

- 1. Opposes deer hunting with dogs
- 2. Opposes deer hunting with dogs
- 3. Opposes deer hunting with dogs and length of still season too short
- 4. Opposes deer hunting with dogs
- 5. Requests high water closure mark to be set for Mississippi River lands
- 6. Too many either-sex days

LDWF Public Hearing Lake Charles, LA. LSU AG. Center 3/11/2005

48 People attended

9 Persons Spoke

<u>Keith Joubert</u> Move that portion of Allen Parish, which was placed in Area 2 deer hunting season in 2004, back into Area 8 deer hunting season. Wanted to know how the proposed tagging system would affect DMAP program.

<u>Dwayne Dalton</u> Would like Area 3 archery seasons date be move back one to two weeks later in Sept. and wants a deer tagging system be put into place.

<u>Gerald Roberts</u> Supports Area 6 (6 points and better) buck antler restrictions and want the 6 points buck antler restriction rule to be placed on Sherburne WMA. Supports a tagging system.

<u>Keith Bell</u> Move that portion of Allen Parish, which was placed in Area 2 deer hunting season in 2004, back into Area 8 deer hunting season.

Edward Arnold Wanted information on the Tri-Parish 6 points buck restriction area.

<u>Wade Crochet</u> Concerns over why LDWF wanting a tagging system on deer and how it would affect the DMAP program.

<u>Creed Owens</u> Could the deer tagging system allow antlerless deer be taken using a buck tag.

<u>Randy Farr</u> Supported tagging system, but would like to have 4 points on one side of buck rather than 6 point or better system, would like to use buck tags on antlerless deer and consider a buck as a buck regardless of age, antlered or antlerless.

That portion of Allen, Beauregard an Vernon Parish which was moved into Area 2 deer hunting season in 2004, twenty—five (25) people were for moving the season back to Area 8 and no one at the meeting voice their opinion or requested that the area remain in Area 2.

Thirty (30) Deer/Turkey Tagging Survey Forms were completed.

Question #1 Tagging systemQuestion #2 Three buck limitQuestion #2 Limit the number of bucks - 2 bucks 8 6 bucks 1

Question #3 Validation programQuestion #3 Validation preferred - 24 hrs. 3 72 hrs. 3 End of Season 19 None 5

Question #4 Best way to Pay- LDWF pay 9 All hunters pay 11 Bonus Tags pay 10

P.O. Box 460 Patterson, LA 70392 Phone: 985/395-9576 Fax: 985/395-9578

Called + talked to m Sparks

Williams, Inc./Williams Land Company, L.L.C.

10:10 AM - 3/16/2005 about comments on hunting Seasons



To:	Susan Falcon	From:	Rudy C. Sparks		
Fax:	225-763-3530	Date:	March 16, 2005		
		Pages:	1		
Re:	LDW&F Commission Mtg.	CC:			
X Urgent	☐ For Review ☐ Please Co	mment	☐ Please Reply	☐ Please Recycle	
agenda fo	of several landowners and hun or the upcoming April 6-7 th LI to present our views on still hur	DW&F	Commission Med	eting. The purpose of	of this
	rward this request to all membe ogist (225-765-0456) and Mr. D		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		rham,
Thank you	J.				

Mar. 16. 2005 10:54AM

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES April 7, 2005

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, April 7, 2005.

- WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Legislature, pursuant to Act 1221, has directed the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to promulgate rules and regulations regarding the private possession of venomous snakes, and constricting snakes over twelve feet long, and
- WHEREAS, authority to adopt rules and regulations necessary to manage Louisiana's reptile resources is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:632B, and
- WHEREAS, this action will establish a permit system and set guidelines for the private possession of potentially dangerous snakes, and
- WHEREAS, the Louisiana Reptile and Amphibian Task Force, and the Commission and Department staff have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information, now
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules and regulations affecting the private possession of venomous snakes, and constricting snakes over twelve feet long, are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as a Notice of Intent.

Wayne J. Aagrera, Chairman

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby advertise their intent to require permits for private possession of constrictor snakes in excess of twelve feet long and of venomous snakes.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XV. Reptiles and Amphibians

Chapter 1. Guidelines

§101. Recreational and Commercial Harvests; Prohibitions

A.-J. * * *

K. Venomous and Large Constricting Snakes

1. The importation and/or private possession of constrictor snakes in excess of twelve (12) feet, including but not limited to the following species Apodora papuana (Papuan python), Liasis olivacea, (Olive python), Morelia spilota (Carpet or Diamond python), Morelia kinghorni (Scrub python), Morelia amethystina (Amethystine python), Python natalensis (Southern African python), Python sebae (African Rock python), Python molurus (Indian or Burmese python), Python reticulatus (Reticulate python), any species of the genus Boa (Boa constrictors), and any species of the genus Eunectes (Anacondas), and venomous snakes, obtained in any manner, shall be by permit issued by the Department of Wildlife and

Fisheries except for animals kept by animal sanctuaries, zoos, aquariums, wildlife research centers, scientific organizations, and medical research facilities as defined in the Animal Welfare Act as found in the United States Code Title 7, Chapter 54, 2132(e).

<u>Venomous Snakes - any species under current taxonomic standing recognized to belong to the Families Viperidae (Pitvipers & Vipers), Elapidae (Cobras & Mambas), Hydrophiidae (Sea Snakes), Atractaspididae (Mole Vipers), as well as the genera Dispholidus, Thelotornis, and Rhabdophis of the Family Colubridae only.</u>

a. Any person requesting a permit to allow importation and/or private possession of venomous snakes shall demonstrate no less than one year of substantial, practical experience (to consist of no less than 500 hours) in the care, feeding, handling, and/or husbandry of the species for which the permit is sought, or other species within the same zoological order, which are substantially similar in size, characteristics, care, and nutritional requirements to the species for which the permit is sought.

b. For the purpose of demonstrating compliance, applicants shall submit documentation of such experience, including a detailed description of the experience acquired, the dates and time frames the experience was obtained and the specific location(s) where it was acquired, and references of no less than two individuals having personal knowledge of your stated experience. Personal reference letters do not need to be authored by venomous

reptile permit holders. Additional documentation may include records of prior permits for the keeping of venomous reptiles, employment records, or any other competent documentation of the required experience.

- c. Documented educational experience in zoology or other relevant biological sciences obtained at the college or technical school level or above may substitute for up to 250 hours of the required experience. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall be responsible for judgment of the adequacy of the documentation.
- d. Applicant must be at least 18 years old at the time of application.
- e. Notification of relocation of facilities shall be made within thirty (30) days of a move, and permittee shall be allowed to keep the animals in the same setup(s) until the inspection of the facility and/or room and cages within which the animals are to be kept at the new location can be undertaken by Department of Wildlife & Fisheries personnel.
- f. In the event of an escape where a constrictor snake in excess of twelve (12) feet or a venomous snake escapes its cage and its secure containment room, and becomes outside the control of the permit holder and/or owner, immediate notification shall immediately be made to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries emergency notification number.
 - g. A secure transport container shall be required

to transport venomous snakes away from any field collection sites.

- h. Those persons who can prove prior ownership of restricted snakes have 90 days from the final ruling to obtain a permit from the Department.
- i. Restricted snakes shall be kept in secure, escape proof enclosures with doors that lock, or such secure enclosures shall be enclosed in secure, escape proof rooms that are kept locked except when the animals are being fed, the cages are being cleaned, or otherwise worked by the person trained and experienced in proper care, handling, and use of the species being maintained. Entrance doors shall be kept securely locked on all outdoor enclosures to prevent escape and unauthorized intrusion and the enclosure shall be equipped with barriers to prevent visitors from falling into enclosures that are constructed below ground level.
- j. Facilities that house constrictor snakes in excess of twelve (12) feet or venomous snakes in private possession shall be open to inspection prior to issuance of a permit and at other reasonable times deemed necessary to ensure compliance with the permit by Department of Wildlife and Fisheries personnel or other persons authorized by Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to perform such inspections.
- k. Any non-permitted individual who is found in possession of restricted snakes shall have thirty (30) days to obtain a permit. Any individual who possesses restricted snakes in

a manner not compliant with this rule shall have thirty (30) days to demonstrate compliance to Department of Wildlife and Fisheries personnel. Any individual who remain non-compliant after thirty (30) days shall forfeit all restricted snakes to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries personnel, who may dispose of the snakes in any manner.

1. A first violation of this section will result in a five-year period of probation; a violation during the probationary period shall be considered a second violation, and will result in a one-year suspension of the permit; a third violation will result in a five-year revocation of a permit.

<u>LK.</u> Except as provided in subsection K, whoever violates the provisions of this rule shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, or imprisoned for not less than thirty days, or both.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6(10), (13), (15) and (25), R.S. 56:23, and R.S. 56:632.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 20:1135 (October 1994), amended LR 31: .

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of

intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to Mr. Philip Bowman, Fur & Refuge Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Thursday, June 2, 2005.

In accordance with Act #1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R. S. 49:972(B).

Wayne J. Sagrera

Chairman

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Au	gus	t 20	05			
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

PERIOD	NO. CASES	TRUOMA	CREDIT FOR	NO. CASES	AMOUNT	DISCOUNTS	PERCENT	PERCENT
	Assessed	ASSESSED	SALE GOODS	PAID	PAID	TAKEN	DOLLARS PAID	CASES PAID
FISCAL YEAR 199	3-94							
July, 1993	25	\$21,039.00	(\$9,778.00)	29	\$4,855.00	\$2,545.00		
Aug., 1993	53	\$44,922.00	(\$1,137.00)	41	\$7,950.00	\$3,603.00		
Sept., 1993	42	\$137,635.00	(\$17,938.00)	35	\$6,783.00	\$3,048.00		
Oct., 1993	49	\$21,471.00	(\$11,282.00)	40	\$3,285.00	\$1,519.00		
Nov., 1993	57	\$31,207.00	(\$13,260.00)	32	\$3,053.00	\$2,845.00		
Dec., 1993	53	\$13,777.00		27	\$6,507.00	\$6,713.00		
Jan., 1994	38	\$18,918.00		32	\$4,423.00	\$2,831.00		
Feb., 1994	68	\$38,131.00	(\$8,238.00)	46	\$9,124.00	\$5,993.00		
Mar., 1994	38	\$22,739.00	(\$2,482.00)	51	\$10,854.00	\$6,796.00		
April, 1994	14	\$44,732.00	(\$1,404.00)	27	\$7,307.00	\$4,632.00		
May, 1994	10	\$4,504.00	(\$165.00)	7	\$5,447.00	\$3,808.00		
June, 1994	29	\$26,167.00	(\$2,986.00)	12	\$1,886.00	\$1,214.00		
Total FY 1994	476	\$425,242.00	(\$68,670.00)	379	\$71,474.00	\$45,547.00	27.5%	79.6%
FISCAL YEAR 199	4-95							
July, 1994	17	\$2,127.00	(\$335.00)	23	\$2,101.00	\$1,437.00		
•			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	20		\$605.00		
Aug., 1994	41	\$96,403.00	(\$3,035.00)		\$1,010.00			
Sept., 1994	34	\$14,614.00	(\$14,002.00)	26	\$2,596.00	\$2,342.00		
Oct., 1994	94	\$17,426.00	(\$8,677.00)	38	\$2,922.00	\$3,179.00		
Nov., 1994	43	\$103,592.00		45	\$3,992.00	\$2,803.00		
Dec., 1994	68	\$31,400.00		35	\$4,315.00	\$2,329.00		
Jan., 1995	55	\$27,601.00		52	\$7,493.00	\$4,921.00		
Feb., 1995	70	\$61,119.00		41	\$6,472.00	\$3,973.00		
Mar., 1995	31	\$25,072.00		44	\$8,315.00	\$4,737.00		
Apr., 1995	13	\$15,353.00		16	\$3,565.00	\$1,538.00		
May., 1995	23	\$11,632.00		16	\$4,315.00	\$654.00		
June 1995	45	\$31,008.00		18	\$2,630.00	\$1,025.00		
Total FY 1995	534	\$437,347.00	(\$26,049.00)	374	\$49,726.00	\$29,543.00	18.1%	70.0%
FICAL YEAR 1995	-96							
July, 1995	0	\$0.00						
Aug., 1995	46	\$17,425.00		27	\$9,028.00	\$1,729.00		
Sept., 1995	1	\$125.00		21	\$3,093.00	\$2,049.00		
Oct., 1995	122	\$206,244.00		29	\$2,720.00	\$1,161.00		
Nov., 1995	55	\$23,124.00		62	\$10,151.00	\$6,383.00		
Dec., 1995	50	\$18,607.26		32	\$4,780.66	\$2,802.76		
Jan., 1996	49		(\$4E 20E 4E)	36	\$5,296.51	\$3,472.89		
		\$13,814.88 \$14,716.07	(\$15,296.45)	38		\$3,416.91		
Feb., 1996	50	\$14,716.97			\$5,777.53			
Mar., 1996	33	\$24,936.91		36	\$6,035.12	\$3,421.75		
Apr., 1996	30	\$11,006.66		36	\$7,173.12	\$2,711.54		
May., 1996	23	\$7,989.34		24	\$3,941.69	\$2,020.29		
June 1996	50	\$22,151.31		16	\$2,790.02	\$1,182.23		
Total FY 1996	509	\$360,141.33	(\$15,296.45)	357	\$60,786.65	\$30,350.37	25.3%	70.1%
FISCAL YEAR 199	6-97							
July, 1996	40	\$71,894.13		32	\$5,249.93	\$2,947.96		
Aug., 1996	32	\$5,362.64		32	\$6,254.59	\$3,783.69		
Sept., 1996	41	\$7,210.00		29	\$2,259.96	\$1,326.58		
Oct., 1996	29	\$11,092.53		25	\$3,697.89	\$2,261.98		
Nov., 1996	20	\$10,009.10		22	\$1,624.63	\$698.02		
Dec., 1996	13	\$238,466.04		22	\$5,877.18	\$2,121.53		
Jan., 1997	27	\$11,755.22		17	\$4,393.30	\$2,377.09		
Feb., 1997	47	\$18,520.87		42	\$8,579.84	\$5,552.63		
Mar., 1997	26	\$13,434.02		27	\$4,999.59	\$2,757.67		
Apr., 1997	10	\$2,908.87		15	\$2,322.88	\$1,298.66		
•								
May., 1997	20	\$11,682.70		15	\$5,198.91 \$0.005.04	\$1,399.21		
June 1997	5	\$8,036.58		10	\$2,335.24	\$765.34		
Total FY 1997	310	\$410,372.70	\$0.00	288	\$52,793.94	\$27,290.36	19.5%	92.9%
FICAL YEAR 1997	- 98							
July, 1997	10	\$2,811.71		8	\$1,584.67	\$823.11		
Aug., 1997	14	\$8,741.30		8	\$1,496.49	\$779.14		
Sept., 1997	29	\$19,926.37		12	\$2,051.78	\$1,278.04		
Oct., 1997	12	\$4,716.81		23	\$3,184.83	\$2,063.89		
Nov., 1997	23	\$54,965.34		10	\$2,424.86	\$1,218.28		
Dec., 1997	25	\$36,881.09		15	\$4,376.97	\$2,775.66		
200, 100,		400,00 1.00		.•	¥ .,= / 0.01			

MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

Jan., 1998	42	\$30,025.81		17	\$5,300.40	\$3,533.66		
•								
Feb., 1998	37	\$31,164.95		29	\$22,961.69	\$8,501.18		
Mar., 1998	9	\$ 13,273.45		32	\$9,406.56	\$4,371.53		
Apr., 1998	10	\$5,628.21		10	\$2,602.62	\$1,279.77		
May., 1998	0	\$225.00		8	\$2,885.02	\$950.46		
June 1998	5	\$2,414.03		6	\$1,041.54	\$98.00		
Carlo 1000	•	₩ 2, ₹17.00		·	¥1,0+1.0+	\$60.00		
Total FY 1998	216	\$210,774.07	\$0.00	178	\$59,317.43	\$27,672.72	41.3%	82.4%
FICAL YEAR 1998		•						
July, 1998	9	\$1,390.43		8	\$1,964.20	\$716.75		
Aug., 1998	10	\$2,240.70		10	\$1,048.28	\$372.47		
Sept., 1998	8	\$2,768.96	,	11	\$2,000.36	\$1,148.23		
Oct., 1998	22	\$28,704.85		14	\$1,860.17	\$807.48		
Nov., 1998	19	\$9,137.79		11	\$1,765.97	\$1,092.43		
Dec., 1998	23	\$11,959.10		27	\$4,441.02	\$2,040.71		
Jan., 1999	41	\$21,179.55		18	\$6,621.63	\$3,838.22		
Feb., 1999	45	\$26,236.24		41	\$12,119.09	\$6,923.61		
Mar., 1999	15	\$7,549.57		33	\$8,281.77	\$4,138.44		
Apr., 1999	9	\$8,013.54		14	\$3,035.82	\$1,388.41		
May., 1999	5	\$5,161.23		5	\$905.50	\$405.00		
June 1999	7	\$3,719.01		13	\$3,011.06	\$ 533.83		
2016 1555	,	\$3,715.01		13	\$3,011.00	# 333.63		
Total FY 1999	213	\$128,060.97	\$0.00	205	\$47,054.87	\$23,405.58	55.0%	96.2%
FISCAL YEAR 1999	-2000							
July, 1999	5	\$1,556.38		9	\$2,287.53	\$1,198.81		
Aug., 1999	10	\$2,510.83		15	\$2,455.38	\$513.73		
_			(SE 004 00)					
Sept., 1999	6	\$2,032.19	(\$5,324.80)	28	\$3,563.06	\$475.93		
Oct., 1999	11	\$ 4,452.31	(\$567.75)	25	\$2,775.48	\$557.41		
Nov., 1999	14	\$8,634.64		26	\$3,250.96	\$ 1,322.96		
Dec., 1999	24	\$15,891.96		19	\$3,862.76	\$2,126.27		
Jan., 2000	49	\$27,872.14		28	\$7,952.94	\$3,814.02		
Feb., 2000	21	\$11,039.59		30	\$10,159.24	\$6,216.42		
Mar., 2000	19	\$9,873.21		31	\$6,709.07			
						\$3,555.40		
Apr., 2000	12	\$7,897.70		17	\$2,932.41	\$1,512.54		
May, 2000	7	\$5,039.46	(\$293.60)	20	\$7,062.23	\$3,164.00		
June, 2000	16	\$14,566.88		18	\$5,766.59	\$ 1,852.12		
Total FY 2000	194	\$111,367.29	(\$6,186.15)	266	\$58,777.65	\$26,309.61	76%	137%
FISCAL YEAR 2000-	-01							
July, 2000	2	\$865.01		14	\$1,948.03	\$154.01		
Aug.,2000	20	\$15,837.60		17	\$3,302.27	\$1,063.92		
Sept.,2000	12	•				·		
		\$3,562.26		23	\$8,718.21	\$1,351.41		
Oct.,2000	18	\$122,696.24		29	\$7,457.98	\$490.16		
Nov.2000	13	\$15,851.30		22	\$4,038.50	\$309.30		
Dec., 2000	40	\$30,234.92		24	\$ 7,189.98	. \$462,13		
Jan., 2001	28	\$15,923.38		25	\$7,611.66	\$833.60		
Feb., 2001	35	\$20,181.39		30	\$18,568.12	\$1,917.82		
Mar., 2001	8	\$5,956.83		37	\$15,724.02	\$753.86		
Apr.,2001	20	\$24,145.82		22	\$4,856.39	\$225.93		
May 2001	4	\$1,677.36		20	\$3,700.77	\$313.58		
June 2001	3	\$932.20		31	\$8,433.81	\$346. 9 0		
Total FY 2001	203	\$257,864.31	\$0.00	294	\$91,549.74	\$8,222.62	39%	145%
FISCAL YEAR 2001-	-02							
July, 2001	4	\$4,290.29		25	\$6,328.36	\$293.54		
Aug., 2001	6	\$9,452.69		18	\$2,984.52	*		
Sept., 2001	Ö	\$175.00		25	\$4,157.32	\$66.29		
•								
Oct., 2001	15	\$6,439.06		18	\$3,174.66	\$67.32		
Nov., 2001	15	\$5,913.63		24	\$3,932.41	\$194.66		
Dec., 2001	36	\$21,868.88		20	\$5,384.19	\$502.17		
Jan., 2002	56	\$27,650.44		38	\$11,100.99	\$1,008.09		
Feb., 2002	27	\$14,211.31	(\$620.55)	37	\$20,017.87	\$861.63		
. Mar., 2002	8	\$6,765.68	(44.00)	36	\$10,061.89	\$419.16		
	20							
Apr., 2002		\$11,296.19	/# 4 4 AAT AA'	19	\$2,196.02	\$49.33		
May, 2002	3	\$30,852.57	(\$11,887.80)	27	\$8,265.67	\$538.72		
June, 2002	3	\$8,636.08		23	\$ 3,418.15	\$87.91		
Total FY 2002	193	\$147,551.82	(\$12,508.35)	310	\$81,022.05	\$4,088.82	58%	161%

MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

Total FY 2005	205	\$132,311.59	(\$1,801.90)	275	\$74,965.47	\$4,908.29	60%	134%
June, 2005								
May, 2005								
Apr., 2005	ŭ	ψ-1,-10-7/16		•••	Ţ.0,000.00	¥ 1,2 10.00		
Mar., 2005	9	\$4,464.72		45	\$13,969.33	\$1,213.93		
Feb., 2005	42	\$20,627.20 \$20,619.21		44	\$15,547.56 \$15,119,91	\$1,153.91		
Jan., 2005	45	\$26,627.20		45	\$13,547.56	\$608.33 \$1,187.89		
Nov., 2004 Dec. 2004	12 62	\$4,627.15 \$35,332.31	(\$1,801.90)	26 29	\$5,997.38 \$7,712.43	\$179.42 608.33		
Oct., 2004	13	\$3,560.84 \$4,637.45	/64 004 00\	31 26	\$9,987.75 \$5,007.28	\$300.45 \$170.43		
Sept., 2004	11	\$3,623.86		24	\$4,407.31 \$0.097.75	\$201.50 \$300.45		
Aug., 2004	8	\$3,706.10		18	\$2,880.20	\$004 F0		
July, 2004	3	\$29,750.20		13	\$1,343.60	\$62.86		
FISCAL YEAR 2004		Acc 220 cc		4.5		***		
Total FY 2004	209	\$152,491.82	\$0.00	269	\$78,006.34	\$4,806.83	54%	129%
June, 2004	4	\$31,164.87			\$6,629.45	\$249.47		
May, 2004	13	\$4,300.96 \$31.164.97		19 24	\$3,608.61 \$8,830.45	\$228.47 \$249.47		
Apr., 2004	15	\$7,481.48		19	\$4,666.57	\$284.61 \$229.47		
Mar., 2004	17	\$14,927.35		32	\$11,840.30	\$647.13 \$304.64		
Feb., 2004	19	\$10,856.76		38	\$14,262.81	\$1,133.21		
Jan., 2004	32	\$17,609.03		22	\$7,016.24	\$685.11		
Dec., 2003	45	\$22,244.61		23	\$8,965.74	\$702.59		
Nov., 2003	17	\$7,594.12		18	\$4,500.13	\$245.00		
Oct., 2003	14	\$14,153.21		24	\$6,084.13	\$188.45		
Sept., 2003	13	\$15,161.55		17	\$3,797.61	\$285.74		
Aug., 2003	13	\$5,254.98		16	\$3,131.76	\$126.78		
July, 2003	7	\$1,742.90		17	\$3,502.99	\$30.27		
FISCAL YEAR 2003								
Total FY 2003	245	\$132,399.06	\$0.00	295	\$81,067.90	\$5,118.41	65%	120%
June, 2003	11	\$6,700.71		24	\$6,907.49	\$224.85		
May 2003	11	\$5,801.24		20	\$5,252.90	\$293.69		
Apr., 2003	16	\$5,661.77		23	\$3,004.29	\$269.02		
Mar., 2003	13	\$3,668.17		28	\$9,342.76	\$643.57		
Feb.,2003	33	\$18,426.48		40	\$13,988.00	\$1,122.57		
Jan.,2003	58	\$32,391.55		22	\$7,149.09	\$562.34		
Dec., 2002	32	\$15,763.99		23	\$7,660.18	\$689.95		
Nov., 2002	21	\$11,013.41		27	\$8,688.51	\$624.99		
Oct., 2002	24	\$12,167.99		25	\$7,131.20	\$442.95		
Sept., 2002	6	\$1,944.83		19	\$4,624.36	\$85.25		
Aug., 2002	12	\$11,943.66		24	\$4,010.98	\$47.33		
July, 2002	:-us 8	\$6,915,26		20	\$3,308.14	\$111.90		
FISCAL YEAR 2002	-03							

ENF_521U LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES PAGE: CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT

CURRENT MONTH 03/01/2005 TO 03/31/2005

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	9	\$4,439.72
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	1	\$25.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	0	\$0.00
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	9	\$4,464.72
PAYMENTS	35	\$13,143.19-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	3	\$181.80-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	6	\$569.34-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	1	\$25.00-
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	2	\$50.00-
	26	\$1,213.93-
OVERPAYMENTS	1	\$0.01
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	1	\$52.45
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	0	\$0.00
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	0	\$0.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		•
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
WRITE-OFFS	1	\$0.54 <i>-</i>
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	0	\$0.00
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	0	\$0.00
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY D.A.	0	\$0.00
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	0	\$0.00
FOOTNOTE:		

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS

0

\$0.00

DATE: 04/01/2005

ENF_521U LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES PAGE: CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT

DATE: 04/01/2005

\$1,860.00

1

FISCAL YEAR TO DATE 07/01/2004 TO 03/31/2005

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	205	\$131,311.59
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	41	\$1,000.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	0	\$0.00
=======================================	=============	
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	205	\$132,311.59
PAYMENTS	154	\$64,812.61-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	12	\$2,524.16-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	27 7	\$4,680.85~
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT		\$2,122.85-
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	34	\$825.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	107	\$4,908.29-
OVERPAYMENTS	6	\$1. 65
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	. 1 . 1	\$52.45
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	· 1	\$1,801.90-
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	1	\$510.70
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	0	\$0.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	2	\$1,962.91-
WRITE-OFFS	2	\$0.70-
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	0	\$0.00
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	· . 3	\$345.64-
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	1	\$524.54-
DISMISSED BY D.A.	0	\$0.00
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	1	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	1	\$2,892.22-

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS

ENF_521U LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT

INCEPTION TO DATE 03/31/2005

•	
# CASES	AMOUNT
5,049	\$3,515,041.01
511	\$13,300.00
331	\$269,865.45-
138	\$58,209.82
	,30,209.02 :===============
F 040	42 216 605 20
5,049	\$3,316,685.38
3,458	\$826,758.58-
47	\$11,377.46-
111	\$39,514.02-
45	\$29,434.02-
271	\$6,975.00-
2,413	\$271,116.77-
150	\$361.09
75	\$12 940 46
18	\$46,057.55-
6	\$7,291.24
8	\$45,896.70
1	\$61.75
3	\$55.00
13	\$10.22-
21	\$6,881.15
69	\$41,108.64-
1,059	\$1,478,957.19-
9	\$4,717.56-
43	\$21,427.83-
96	\$200,277.90-
1	\$2,134.47-
3	\$559.32-
7	\$524.54-
	\$11,048.80-
2	911,040.00-
2 ==:	\$11,040.00- ==================================
2	• •
2 ==:	=======================================
	5,049 511 331 138 5,049 5,049 3,458 47 111 45 271 2,413 150 75 18 6 8 1 313 21 69 1,059 9 43 96 1 3

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS

40 \$109,868.20 *

PAGE: 3

DATE: 04/01/2005

${ t ENF}$	521U

AMOUNT UNDER PROTEST: 1 - 180 DAYS

181 - 365 DAYS

OVER ONE YEAR

** TOTAL AGING

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT

PAGE:

\$0.00

\$0.00

\$88,510.10

\$398,172.90

DATE: 04/01/2005

AGING OF SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODITIES

TIGING OF BALL (DI CONFIDENTED COMM	DITTES
VIOLATION DATE UNKNOWN	0	\$0.00
1 - 30 DAYS	0	\$0.00
31 - 60 DAYS	7	\$4,452.98
61 - 90 DAYS	0	\$0.00
91 - 120 DAYS	2	\$9,765.90
121 - 150 DAYS	4	\$3,577.30
151 - 180 DAYS	2 4 9	\$13,607.24
181 - 365 DAYS	76	\$39,701.99
OVER ONE YEAR	78	\$64,800.44
OVER TWO YEARS	60	\$61,840.69
OVER THREE YEARS	1,088	\$778,732.60
	, =	=======================================
** TOTAL AGING	1,324	\$976,479.14
AGING	OF OUTSTANDING CASE	S
COLLECTIONS WITH AGENCY:		
CAN NOT BE INVOICED	0	\$0.00
CURRENT	7	\$3,672.04
1 - 30 DAYS	17	\$9,698.04
31 - 90 DAYS	51	
91 - 180 DAYS	7	\$29,441.96
181 - 365 DAYS	20	\$2,454.76
OVER ONE YEAR		\$45,652.95
OVER ONE TEAR	144	\$136,764.00
COLLECTIONS WITH PRIVATE	COLLECTIONS FIRM:	
1 - 90 DAYS	0	\$0.00
91 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	Ö	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	83	\$81,979.05
		, · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

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334

ENF_525U LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT CURRENT MONTH

PAGE:

DATE: 04/01/2005

03/01/2005-03/31/2005

•	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES HEARING COSTS	1	\$50.00
DEBITS	57	\$1,465.00
CREDITS	4	\$100.00-
LATE CHARGES		,
DEBITS	435	\$3,871.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
	===:	==========
TOTAL DUE		\$5,286.00
=======================================	=======================================	
PAID IN FULL	91	\$6,987.52-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	1	\$50.00-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	0	\$0.00
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	0	\$0.00
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	153	\$9,216.07-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	133	\$544.00-
WRITE-OFFS	0	\$0.00
OVERPAYMENTS	5	\$322.02
REFUNDS	12	\$306.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
VOIDS	0	\$0.00
NOT GUILTY	9	\$450.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	6	\$300.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00

ENF_525U

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT FISCAL YEAR TO DATE 07/01/2004-03/31/2005 PAGE:

DATE: 04/01/2005

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES HEARING COSTS	30	\$1,950.00
DEBITS	1,297	\$35,990.00
CREDITS	12	\$700.00-
LATE CHARGES		*
DEBITS	624	\$5,434.00
CREDITS	1	\$7.50-
•	===	=======================================
TOTAL DUE		\$42,666.50
		. ,
	=======================================	=======================================
,		•
PAID IN FULL	1,475	\$99,362.02-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	38	\$2,187.50-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	0	\$0.00
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	0	, \$0 . 00
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	170	\$10,155.07-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	148	\$612.00-
WRITE-OFFS	1	\$0.50-
OVERPAYMENTS	9	\$351.52
REFUNDS	32	\$838.00
RETURNED CHECKS	1	\$82.50
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	1	\$20.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	3	\$150.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
VOIDS	13	\$650.00-
NOT GUILTY	21	\$1,100.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	25	\$1,350.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00

ENF_525U

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT INCEPTION TO DATE 03/31/2005

PAGE:

DATE: 04/01/2005

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES HEARING COSTS DEBITS CREDITS LATE CHARGES DEBITS CREDITS	115,438	\$5,963,032.07
	34,821 13	\$885,511.30 \$12,316.00-
	2,516 1 ==	\$20,691.75 \$7.50-
TOTAL DUE		\$6,856,911.62

PAID IN FULL 71,842 \$3,892,694.84PARTIAL PAYMENTS 1,829 \$87,181.25-

PARTIAL PAYMENTS	1,829	\$87,181.25-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	14	\$690.00-
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	33	\$345.00-
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	534	\$32,416.60-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	472	\$1,944.00-
WRITE-OFFS	11,979	\$696,546.50-
OVERPAYMENTS	205	\$4,640.38
REFUNDS	452	\$19,247.81
RETURNED CHECKS	79	\$4,207.50
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	76	\$1,235.00
CREDITS	170	\$141.88-
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	259	\$15,200.00
CREDITS	46	\$2,600.00-
VOIDS	5,787	\$291,700.00-
NOT GUILTY	1,327	\$ 67,550.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	295	\$15,550.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	13	\$650.00-
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	159	\$8,000.00-
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
	=	=== =================================

TOTAL OUTSTANDING \$1,803,432.24

ENF_525U LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT

PAGE:

DATE: 04/01/2005

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES FROM CITATION DATE

COLLECTIONS WITH AGENC CURRENT 1 - 30 DAYS 31 - 90 DAYS 91 - 180 DAYS 181 - 365 DAYS OVER ONE YEAR	Y: 0 0 0 0 1,093 14,990	\$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$95,685.50 \$1,098,584.34
COLLECTIONS WITH DEPT 1 - 90 DAYS 91 - 180 DAYS 181 - 365 DAYS OVER ONE YEAR	OF REVENUE: 0 0 0 7,747	\$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$608,937.40
AMOUNT UNDER PROTEST: 1 - 180 DAYS 181 - 365 DAYS OVER ONE YEAR	0 0 3	\$0.00 \$0.00 \$225.00
** TOTAL AGING	23,833	\$1,803,432.24
AGING OF OU PREHEARING 0 - 90 DAYS 91 - 180 DAYS 181 - 270 DAYS 271 - 365 DAYS OVER ONE YEAR	0 24 410 506 334 22,559	\$0.00 \$1,200.00 \$32,585.00 \$49,481.00 \$29,045.00 \$1,691,121.24
** TOTAL AGING	23,833	\$1,803,432.24



KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU SECRETARY

JANICE A. LANSING UNDERSECRETARY

NEWS RELEASE

2005-090

04/05/05

AGENDA AMENDED FOR L.W.F.C. APRIL MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission for 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 7, 2005 at the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries building, 2000 Quail Drive in Baton Rouge.

- 1. Roll call
- 2. Commission special announcements
- 3. Ducks Unlimited presentation
- 4. Enforcement and aviation reports/March
- 5. South Louisiana Quality Deer Management Association presentation of check to department for deer stand acquisition for youth hunts on Sherburne WMA
- 6. Consideration of oyster season on public grounds and seed reservations
- 7. Public comments 2005-2007 seasons and WMA rules and regulations
- 8. Notice of intent rules for possession of constrictors over 12 feet and venomous snakes
- 9. Bobcat presentation
- 10. Set August 2005 meeting date
- 11. Public comments
- 12. Adjournment

April 5, 2005

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED:

AMENDED AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for 9:30 A.M. on Thursday, April 7, 2005, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Commission Special Announcements
- 3. Ducks Unlimited Presentation
- 4. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/March
- 5. South Louisiana Quality Deer Management Association Presentation of Check to Department for Deer Stand Acquisition for Youth Hunts on Sherburne WMA
 - 6. Consideration of Oyster Season on Public Grounds and Seed Reservations
 - 7. Public Comments 2005-07 Seasons and WMA Rules & Regulations
- 8. Notice of Intent Rules for Possession of Constrictors Over 12' and Venomous Snakes
 - 9. Bobcat Presentation
 - 10. Set August 2005 Meeting Date
 - 11. Public Comments
 - 12. Adjournment

Falcon, Susan

From:

Greeson, Cathy

Sent:

Tuesday, April 05, 2005 10:16 AM

To:

Falcon, Susan

Subject:

FW: Commission oyster item

----Original Message----

From: Foote, Karen

Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2005 10:13 AM

To: Greeson, Cathy

Subject: FW: Commission oyster item

----Original Message-----

From: Foote, Karen

Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2005 10:13 AM

To: Roussel, John E

Subject: Commission oyster item

Consideration of Oyster Season on Public Grounds and Seed Reservations - Wayne Sagrera

John - This title would allow the most latitude for east of river and wouldn't bring in tonging areas and would let us show the big picture preliminary data east of the river.

Parallel/related items have been: Consideration of Offshore Territorial Sea Shrimp Closure

Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas



KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU SECRETARY

JANICE A. LANSING UNDERSECRETARY

NEWS RELEASE

2005-089

03/31/05

L.W.F.C. SETS APRIL AGENDA

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission for 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 7, 2005 at the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries building, 2000 Quail Drive in Baton Rouge.

- 1. Roll call
- 2. Approval of minutes of March 3, 2005
- 3. Commission special announcements
- 4. Ducks Unlimited presentation
- 5. Enforcement and aviation reports/March
- 6. South Louisiana Quality Deer Management Association presentation of check to department for deer stand acquisition for youth hunts on Sherburne WMA
- 7. Public comments 2005-2007 seasons and WMA rules and regulations
- 8. Notice of intent rules for possession of constrictors over 12 feet and venomous snakes
- 9. Bobcat presentation
- 10. Set August 2005 meeting date
- 11. Public comments
- 12. Adjournment

AGENDA

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION BATON ROUGE, LA April 7, 2005

9:30 AM

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes of March 3, 2005
- 3. Commission Special Announcements
- 4. Ducks Unlimited Presentation Chairman Wayne Sagrera
- 5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/March Keith LaCaze
- Presentation of Check to Department for Deer Stand Acquisition for Youth Hunts on Sherburne WMA Vic Blanchard, QDMA
- 7. Public Comments 2005-07 Seasons and WMA Rules & Regulations Dave Moreland and Jimmy Anthony
- 8. Notice of Intent Rules for Possession of Constrictors Over 12' and Venomous Snakes -
 - 9. Bobcat Presentation Greg Linscombe
 - 10. Set August 2005 Meeting Date
 - 11. Public Comments
 - 12. Adjournment



KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU SECRETARY

March 29, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Chairman and Members of Commission

FROM:

Dwight Landreneau, Secretary

SUBJECT:

April Commission Meeting Agenda

The next regular Commission Meeting will be held at <u>9:30 A.M. on Thursday, April 7, 2005</u>, in the Louisiana Room at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

The following items will be discussed:

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes of March 3, 2005
- 3. Commission Special Announcements

CHAIRMAN SAGRERA

4. Ducks Unlimited Presentation

WINTON VIDRINE

5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/March

OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

- 6. South Louisiana Quality Deer Management Association Presentation of Check to Department for Deer Stand Acquisition for Youth Hunts on Sherburne WMA
 - 7. Public Comments 2005-07 Seasons and WMA Rules & Regulations

Page 2 Commission Meeting March 29, 2005

- 8. Notice of Intent Rules for Possession of Constrictors Over 12' and Venomous Snakes
 - 9. Bobcat Presentation

OFFICE OF FISHERIES

(None)

- 10. Set August 2005 Meeting Date
- 11. Public Comments

DL:scf

cc: Janice Lansing

Parke Moore

John Roussel

Brandt Savoie

Bo Boehringer

Don Puckett

Dennis Kropog

Ewell Smith

Division Administrators

Marianne Burke

Stephanie Blanchard

March 29, 2005

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED Just muli

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for <u>9:30 A.M.</u> on Thursday, April 7, 2005, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes of March 3, 2005
- 3. Commission Special Announcements
- 4. Ducks Unlimited Presentation
- 5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/March
- 6. South Louisiana Quality Deer Management Association Presentation of Check to Department for Deer Stand Acquisition for Youth Hunts on Sherburne WMA
 - 7. Public Comments 2005-07 Seasons and WMA Rules & Regulations
- 8. Notice of Intent Rules for Possession of Constrictors Over 12' and Venomous Snakes
 - 9. Bobcat Presentation
 - 10. Set August 2005 Meeting Date
 - 11. Public Comments
 - 12. Adjournment

Falcon, Susan

From:

Falcon, Susan

Sent:

Monday, March 28, 2005 11:32 AM

To:

Bobby Samanie (E-mail); Earl King Jr. (E-mail); Fred Miller (E-mail); Henry Mouton (E-mail);

Patrick Morrow (E-mail); Terry Denmon (E-mail); Wayne Sagrera (E-mail)

Subject:

Luncheon

Ducks Unlimited has invited each of you to lunch immediately after the April 7 Commission Meeting at Mike Anderson's Restaurant. This invitation has been extended to Commission Members only. Please let me know if you will be able to attend.

Thanks, Susan Falcon

(Comminion menter only) to lunch sommuladoly after the april The Go Comm meeling -Mean let us know of you can alteral. " nike anderson's" Sent 3/28/2005

C O V E R



FAX

To:

Wayne Sagrera

Fax #:

337-893-7703

Subject:

Agenda

Date:

March 28, 2005

Pages:

3, including this cover sheet.

COMMENTS:

Please call me after you review the attached agenda. Thanks.

From the desk of...

Susan Falcon

La. Dept. Of Wildlife & Fisheries P. O. Box 98000 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

> 225-765-2806 Fax: 225-765-0948

, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission

FROM: Dwight Landreneau, Secretary

SUBJECT: April Commission Meeting Agenda

The next regular Commission Meeting will be held at <u>9:30 A.M. on Thursday, April 7, 2005</u>, in the Louisiana Room at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

The following items will be discussed:

1. Roll Call

- 2. Approval of Minutes of March 3, 2005
- 3. Commission Special Announcements

CHAIRMAN SAGRERA

4. Delta Waterfowl Presentation

WINTON VIDRINE

5. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/March

OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

- 6. South Louisiana Quality Deer Management Association Presentation of Check to Department for Deer Stand Acquisition for Youth Hunts on Sherburne WMA
 - 7. Public Comments 2005-07 Seasons and WMA Rules & Regulations

Page 2 Commission Meeting , 2005

- 8. Notice of Intent Rules for Possession of Constrictors Over 12' and Venomous Snakes
 - 9. Bobcat Presentation

OFFICE OF FISHERIES

(None)

- 10. Set August 2005 Meeting Date
- 11. Public Comments

DL:scf

cc: Janice Lansing

Parke Moore

John Roussel

Brandt Savoie

Bo Boehringer

Don Puckett

Dennis Kropog

Ewell Smith

Division Administrators

Marianne Burke

Stephanie Blanchard

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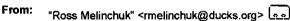


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2005/01/25 Tue PM 12:57:22 EST Date:

<vgfarm@bellsouth.net> To:

CC: dandreneau_d@wlf.state.la.us> ചച

Subject: April Commission Meeting

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Good morning Wayne! First of all, thanks for taking the time to attend the Ducks Unlimited-Vermillion Corp. meeting in Abbeville 2 weeks ago. I hope you found our presentation on DU's work on the Canadian breeding grounds informative. You indicated during our discussion after the meeting that you thought the Wildlife & Fisheries Commission would benefit from a similar presentation. I would ask one of my DU colleagues from Canada to return to talk about how DU is leveraging LDWF's contribution and directing those funds (more than \$1 million each year!) toward our habitat conservation program in those regions of Saskatchewan that produce waterfowl important to Louisiana. We would also like to include in our presentation, an overview by Chad Courville on what DU is doing back here on the wintering grounds in Louisiana, including our \$250,000 contribution to the Dept.'s mallard telemetry study. All good information that I expect the Commissioners would like to know. I briefed Sec. Landreneau on the Abbeville meeting and mentioned our conversation regarding a follow-up presentation to the Commission so have copied him on this email.

With your support and that of Sec. Landreneau, I would like to formally request a 30 min. slot on the Commission's April agenda to update the Commission and Dept. staff on DU's conservation program in both Prairie Canada and Louisiana. Feel free to call me at the number below to discuss further. Thanks again for your support and interest in DU.

Ross Melinchuk Director of Public Policy Southern Regional Office 193 Business Park Drive, Suite E Ridgeland, MS 39157 (601) 956-1936 main line (601) 206-5444 direct line (601) 956-7814 fax rmelinchuk@ducks.org



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KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO **GOVERNOR**

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU SECRETARY

March 1, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-Office of Wildlife, Assistant Secretary-Office

of Fisheries and Press Secretary

FROM:

Dwight Landreneau, Secretary/

SUBJECT:

Commission Meeting Agenda - April 7, 2005

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Falcon by Thursday, March 17th any agenda items your office may have for the Thursday, April 7th Commission Meeting to be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive. This meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. on April 7th. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate so on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda. Thank you for your cooperation!

DL:scf

cc:

Commissioners Don Puckett Brandt Savoie Winton Vidrine Dave Moreland > Bennie Fontenot Karen Foote Phil Bowman Wynnette Kees

Marianne Burke

Ewell Smith

1) Vie Blanchard - SLA ONMA -

Presentation of check to LAME for deer stand coquisition for youth hunts on Sherburne WMA

Vind Mordan

2/ Wildelf Division - NOI 2005-07 Seasons, NMA RR - Rubble Comment Mondard & Anthony



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

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Marianne Burke

D Notice gIntent - Rules 7a possession g constrictors over 12' and Venomous snakes

@ Bobcat prosculation - ratormation



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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

DL:scf

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Marianne Burke

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C. John Louisel

Benne

Falcon, Susan

From:

Sent:

To:

Cc:

Foote, Karen Thursday, March 17, 2005 11:27 AM Roussel, John E Falcon, Susan; Porch, Pat; Blanchet, Harry; Hanifen, Jim; Landrum, Sue At this point, no Marine items for the April Commission meeting

Subject:



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU SECRETARY

March 1, 2005

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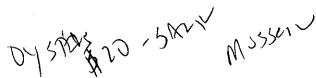
Phil Bowman

Wynnette Kees

Ewell Smith

Marianne Burke

Dear Commissioner:



Thank you for giving us the opportunity present our reasons for requesting the reopening of the Black Bay Area. We understand that the department is not in favor of this proposal;
however, we believe our reasons for re-opening the area greatly outweigh the department's grounds for
not doing so. I will give a detailed report on why we are requesting the re-opening. Regretfully, I will
not be able to question the department on their objections to granting this small request. You, as a
commissioner, can question both sides, and I will be prepared to answer any of your questions. I have
compiled a list of questions designed to procure relevant facts so you can make a qualified decision.

- 1) Mr. Banks (Department of Wildlife and Fisheries), does there exist ample oyster bedding and sack stock in the Black Bay Area?
- 2) Has there been an increase in the boats in the Black Bay Area during the last 3 weeks of March, due to the fact that the yield has finally increased to make harvesting these mussel-covered oysters worthwhile?
- 3) To biologically enhance the possibility of a good spat catch, wouldn't it be better if the area was worked hard and the reefs were cleaned?
- 4) Aren't some boats still making good loads for bedding in a relatively short time, indicating the resource is healthy?
- 5) Would this re-opening and extension prevent those harvesters and farmers, who have bedded numerous loads, from bedding a few more, if they so choose?
- 6) Since most of the area north of the MRGO, that was supposed to remain open until April 30th, will be closed on April 9th, wouldn't re-opening Black Bay give some of the smaller boats or oyster fishermen without leases a place to work, until shrimp season opens.
- 7) Do you agree that with the season opening late, the 3 weeks lost from the hurricanes, and an abnormal number of windy days that some of the oyster fishermen were not able to utilize the areas to their fullest potential?
- 8) Since Black Bay closed on April 2nd, did you experience a multitude of vessels converging in the area north of the MRGO that remained open?

Thank you, commissioner, for your time and I hope that all goes well.

Take Care,

frederic I. miller

From: cjdauthier@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2005 3:42 PM

To: pmorrow@mmrblaw.com; tddenmon@wlf.louisiana.gov; captbob6888@aol.com;

earlking@petronet.net; fredricmiller@bellsouth.net

Subject: tri-parish 6 point rule

Dear sirs, I am e-mailing this letter to you with regard to the 6 point rule that has been recommended to be discontinued this year. I only ask that you read the letter and give it some consideration. It is a bit lengthy, and I apologize for that. But, after the work we have personally put into getting this thing done and keeping it over the past 5 years, I am very passionate about it.

I can provide you with any further information, should you so desire. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 225-718-4412.

Thanks for your consideration.

Chad Dauthier

I am copying and pasting the letter to the bottom of this e-mail so you will not have to download any attachments.

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Chad Dauthier and I am a deer hunter in the parishes of Pointe Coupee and Iberville. As some of you may know who have been on the Commission for a few years, I am also one of the ones who originally brought the proposal for the tri-parish 6 point or better program to you all and the Department.

Originally, I had decided that it would be in the best interest of the hunters in our area to allow them to take the fight to you this season with regard to keeping the regulation that we have fought tooth and nail to keep for the past few years. Many people had tired of hearing my name associated with this subject, and to be quite honest, after three years of fighting legislation intended to destroy this rule, I have tired of the political process as it has become, and have barely the energy to even write you this letter with regard to the program. However, certain issues have arisen since I made that decision, and I have found it to be necessary to write this, if for no other reason, than to be honest with myself and follow through with the endeavor that we started 5 years ago.

While still on the board of the South Louisiana Branch of the Quality Deer Management Association, we met with Mr. Dave Moreland, Mr. Park Moore, and Mr. Brant Savoie (Oct 7th 2004) with respect to the program. At that time, it was relayed to us that the program needed more time to see the full benefit. Mr. Moreland said in nearly exact language, "it is apparent that more than three years was needed to see the results of the program". We found this to be correct, especially since the initial proposal we made 5 years ago called for a 5 year program because it was thought at that time by Mr. Moreland and our biologists that that was the amount of time needed to effectively gauge a program. Nonetheless though, we were not concerned at that meeting. You see, it was also relayed to us that night that the determining fate of the program would be left to the hunters of the area to decide. We were told that the decision to keep or discontinue the program would be laid upon the hunters. If they wanted it, it would be kept. If they didn't want it any longer, it would be scrapped...end of story. We were fine with this scenario.

Hunter support has only gotten stronger since the inception of this program. Surely we can not have the support of every single hunter, but we most certainly had the overwhelming majority on our side.

Then came the article in Louisiana Sportsman Magazine. It had quotes from Mr. Moreland that talked of how the program had not worked as it was intended. It said that it had basically been a bust, and antier programs of this sort were not effective ways to go. It laid out antier dimensions, harvest data, and sentiment of Department officials. The only problem with this all is that the hunting season was not even over yet!! At publication time, we still had 4 weeks of deer season left, and the Department had not even begun to gather data as of yet. The only data they had was the second year data of the program....which is in essence only the first year of data since the first season deer were being protected to carry over to the next year... no older age class bucks could possibly even show up in the first year's data. So, this decision, and the quotes there from (and what has been told to you) were made from one seasons worth of data, when even the man making those quotes had just told us 3 months prior that we needed more time.

Now, it is probably apparent to you that I am a bit miffed at the fact that we were told one thing, and then the exact opposite was done. I think any of you would be as well. However, that alone was not enough to drive me to the point of wanting to make my voice heard again this year. That time did not come until the proposals for this coming hunting season were made.

What you all have been told time and time again, and what has been printed in the way of quotes from the Department is that antler restrictions are not effective means of accomplishing Quality Deer Management. You have been told that the tri-parish are should not continue because there is no real net effect of the regulation. You have been told that in order to accomplish what we want, we must set buck limits in the area and state. However, without solicitation, the Department has recommended to you that you impose a 4 on one side antler restriction on Thistlewait WMA. The reason given is to relieve some of the pressure off of yearling bucks, and thus move more bucks into the adult age classes. I strongly feel that this will do exactly that, just as it is doing in Iberville, Pointe Coupee, and West Baton Rouge Parishes. If it is good enough for the Department and their lands, then it is good enough for us.

I have come to understand from a few "department employees" who will remain nameless that the reason for the flip flop and the recommendation that the program be discontinued stems solely from political pressure. I can certainly believe that, as I have personally fought this pressure over the past few years. However, that pressure has been lifted since the March meeting, and I firmly believe that we can continue in this endeavor that the hunters in this area want.

Now, I have been before your body many times, and I know how difficult it is to suggest changes in season structures. What we are asking for is not a deviation from prior seasons. We are not asking to embark on some unknown journey. We have been down this road before. All we are asking is that you help us in continuing in the direction we were heading. I know by now you have received various phone calls, e-mails, and faxes with respect to the regulation. Surely you can see that the majority of hunters in our area desire to keep this regulation. And one last time, if it is good enough to implement on one of our WMAs by request of the Department, it is good enough to continue in our area. After all, if they had not seen some benefit from this rule, and did not truly believe in its merit, would they be recommending that you implement basically the same regulation somewhere else?

I thank you for your time in reading this lengthy plea. Hopefully, we will be able to continue to progress under your leadership.

Sincerely.

Chad Dauthier



Dear Mr. Henry M. Mouton,

4/7/2005

Ducks Unlimited of Louisiana would like to personally invite you, your family, and friends to attend the largest outdoor greenwing event in DU history. The event will be held on Saturday April 23, 2005 at the Waddill Outdoor Education Center in Baton Rouge, LA from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm.

We will have exhibitors conducting hands on learning activities for the youngsters. For example, K-9 retriever demonstrations, boating and hunting safety, professional fishing guide demonstration, archery(A-1 Archery), skeet shooting, bb-guns (Boy Scouts of America), Girl Scouts of America, Camp Fire, Anti-Drug Task Force, DARE Program, Baton Rouge Zoo (petting animals), Department of Natural Resources Costal Management Division, falconry exhibit, Louisiana Department of Wildlife Federation (wood duck box demonstration), Baton Rouge City Constable's Office (gun safety), Baton Rouge Fire Prevention, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Salter's Jiggin' Pole and Tackle, decoy carvers(Brent Sanchez), Flukers' Cricket Farm, West Marine, Travis Boating display, Go Devil Products (Warren Coco), live alligators, Women of the Outdoors. Department of Insurance, Department of Environmental Quality(DEQ), Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, U.S. Coast Guard, Coastal Conservation Association(CCA), Black Bear of Louisiana, Haydel game calls, and Ducks Unlimited professional biologist.

We are anticipating over 1500 children to attend this event, which is free and open to **the public**. As you can see, we have put together a program where children can be exposed to many different things they may never have had the ability to experience. Hopefully, this event will make a difference in their lives and the community of Baton Rouge.

Sincerely,

Robert a. Walke Jr.
By mm Robert A. Walker Jr.

DU State Greenwing Chairman

2039 W Magna Carta Pl

Baton Rouge, LA 70815

225-923-DUCK (h)

225-315-5002

mmjewell@cox.net



Dear Mr. Terry D. Denmon,

4/7/2005

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Sincerely.

Robert a. Walker Jr.
By mms Robert A. Walker Jr.

DU State Greenwing Chairman

2039 W Magna Carta Pl Baton Rouge, LA 70815

225-923-DUCK (h)

225-315-5002

mmjewell@cox.net



Dear Mr. Fredrick L. Miller,

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Robert a. Walker Jr. By MM3

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DU State Greenwing Chairman

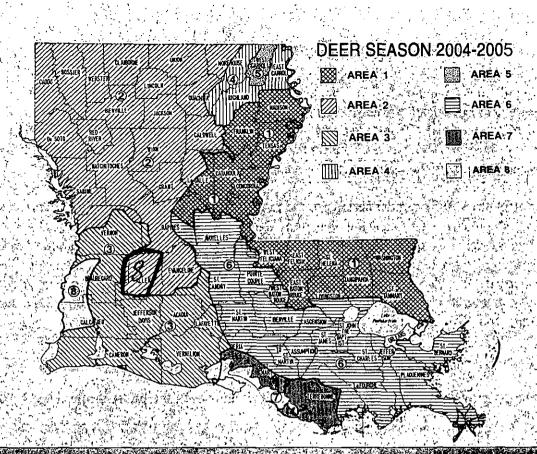
2039 W Magna Carta Pl

Baton Rouge, LA 70815

225-923-DUCK (h)

225-315-5002

mmjewell@cox.net



	DEE	RHÜNTINGSCHED	OLE .	
Area	Archery	Muzzleloader (All Either-sex except as noted)	Still Hunt (No Dogs Allowed)	With or Without Dogs
	Oct. 1 Jan. 31	Nov:13-19 Jan 24-30	Nov. 20-Dec. 3 Jan. 10-23	Dec. 4-Jan. 9
2	Oct. 1-Jan. 31	Oct. 23-29 Jan. 17-23	Oct. 30-Dec. 3	Dec. 4-Jan. 16
3	Sept. 18-Jan. 15	Oct. 9:15 Nov. 29:Dec. 3	Oct. 16-Nov. 28 Dec. 4-Jan. 9	
4	Oct. 1 Jan. 31	Nov. 6-12 Jan. 10-19	Nov. 13-Jan. 9	
5.	Oct. 1-Jan. 31	Nov. 13-19 Dec. 27-Jan. 2 Bucks only	Nov. 26-Dec. 12	
6	North of Hwy. 90 Oct. 16-Feb. 15 South of Hwy. 90 Oct. 1-Jan. 31	Dec 6-10 Jan. 24-31	Nov. 20-Dec. 5	Dec. 11-Jan. 23
7	Oct. 1 Jan. 31	Oct. 9-15 Nov. 6-12	Oct: 16-Nov: 5 Nov: 13-28	Nov. 29-Jan. 2
8	Sept. 18-Jan 15	Oct. 9-15 Nov. 29-Dec. 3	Oct. 16-Nov. 28	Dec. 4-Jan: 9

Page 10 EXCEPT: Kisatchie Evangeline Unit, Calcasieu Ranger District described in Area 3 description shall be still hunting only.

Page 11 Area 2

Change

Allen North of US 190 from parish line westward to Kinder, east of US 165 from Kinder northward to LA 10 at Oakdale, north of LA 10 from Oakdale, westward to the parish line.

Omit Beauregard

Change

Vernon North of LA 10 from the parish line westward to LA 113, south of LA 113 eastward to parish line. Also the portion north of LA 465, west of 117 from Kurthwood to Leesville and north of LA 8 from Leesville to Texas state line.

Page 14 Area 8 This change move that portion which was put

Change Into Area 2 back to Area 8

Allen That portion east of LA 113 from the parish line to US 190, north of US 190 eastward to Kinder, west of US 165 northward to LA 10 at Oakdale and south of LA 10 from Oakdale westward to parish line.

Beauregard That portion east of LASII3. Also that portion west of La 27 from parish line north ward to DeRidder, south of US 190 from DeRidder to Texas state line.

Calcasieu That portion east of LA 27 from the parish line southward to Sulphur and north of US 90 from Sulphur to Texas state line.

Vernon That portion east of La 113 from the parish line northward to Pitkin and south of LA 10 from Pitkin southward to the parish line.

Page 38 Vernon Unit of the Calcasieu Ranger District

Change Adding two days either-sex Nov. 25-27, either-sex, still hunt only.

become f	Dufu show
pregnant	shows that,
become pregnant in catober.	7024 80%
	Female.

ng Clubs 1998-2000 Area 2 2001-2003 Area 8 2000 17 DMAP Clubs 2001 18 DMAP Clubs 2003 20 DMAP Clubs emales Bucks Females Bucks Females Bucks 25 32 17 7 8 1 4 54 42 10 8 9 35 145 107 26 27 11 36 20 18 8 11 1 25 38 22 18 11 1 25 38 22 18 11 1 36 20 16 8 11 1 25 38 22 18 11 1 25 38 22 18 11 1 25 38 22 18 28 2 27 16 10 5 1 28 54 38 28 2 27	000 Area 2 2001-2003 Area 8 2001 18 DMAP Clubs 2003 20 Dec. Dec. Dec. 17 7 8 48 9 11 107 26 27 18 8 11 16 10 6 22 18 11 54 36 28 55	100 Area 2 2001-2003 Area 8 Total 2001 18 DMAP Clubs Dec. Jan. Total emales Bucks Females Bucks Females Bucks 17 7 8 1 77 42 10 8 9 4 79 48 9 11 1 2 75 107 26 27 14 8 231 16 10 6 2 71 107 22 18 11 1 1 1 107 54 36 28 2 3 250 181 62 55 13 9 481	DOD Area 2 2001-2003 Area 8 2001 18 DMAP Clubs 2003 20 DMAP Clubs emales Bucks Females Bucks Females 17 7 8 1 1 42 10 8 9 4 48 9 11 1 2 107 26 27 11 6 16 10 5 2 2 16 10 5 2 3 54 36 28 2 3 161 62 25 13 9
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